

# **CHERTSEY ROAD BUILDING BY BUILDING**

**A History of Chertsey Road  
in Woking, Surrey**



**Trevor R Howard**



**CHERTSEY ROAD  
BUILDING BY BUILDING**

**by**

**Trevor R Howard**

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Architectural detail on 5 Chertsey Road



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# THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WOKING

## ORIGINS

### The Railway

The modern town of Woking in Surrey did not exist before the 1850s. When, in May 1838, the London to Southampton railway first opened, early passengers would have looked out of the train windows upon wide stretches of heathland. The railway station, originally named Woking Common, was built on the southern side of the line to serve the coaches from Guildford and Ripley which brought and collected the mail.

### The Necropolis

In 1850, London had a problem; its ever-growing population was filling all of the church graveyards.

The London Necropolis and National Mausoleum Company was formed and proposed a solution. A huge cemetery would be built some distance from London, where everybody (and every body) in the country would be buried.

An Act of Parliament was passed which authorised the purchase of common land within the parish of the village of Woking (now Old Woking). The plan drew considerable criticism. Many thought that the 2600 acres authorised to be purchased was far in excess of what would be needed and that the whole scheme was no more than land speculation.

A cemetery of 400 acres was set out, as a first phase (in that corner of the land purchased farthest from London and the station of Woking Common). This cemetery is now Brookwood Cemetery and still one of the largest in Europe.

Before the first phase was complete, the Necropolis Company was petitioning Parliament for a second Act which would allow them to sell off any surplus land for development. What land speculation?

#### In Parliament—Session 1869.

**London Necropolis and National Mausoleum.  
(Repeal of Restrictions as to the Sale of Surplus  
Lands; Amendment of Acts.)**

**N**OTICE is hereby given, that the London Necropolis and National Mausoleum Company (hereinafter called the Company) intend to apply to Parliament in the ensuing session for leave to bring in a Bill and to pass an Act for the following, or some of the following purposes, that is to say:—

1. To enable the Company to sell, lease, and exchange the whole or any part of the lands purchased and acquired by them in the parish of Woking, in the county of Surrey, which have not been set apart as a cemetery or burial-ground, and which are not required for the purposes of the Company's undertaking; and to authorise the erection of houses and buildings upon such lands,

Figure 1. London Gazette 17 November 1868

Some of the first land sold was for institutions: The Woking Prison for Invalid Convicts, later to become Inkerman Barracks and the Surrey County Asylum for Pauper Lunatics, better known in more recent times as Brookwood Hospital.

The Company, however, had plans for a new town to be built around the station at Woking Common. It was the land sales policy of the Necropolis Company which ultimately saw the commercial centre of the new town grow up sandwiched between the railway and the Basingstoke Canal. Their company architect, Henry Abraham, drew up a rough scheme which made no attempt to produce a sensible road network. It merely added to the existing tracks which had crossed the common, despite these having been cut and diverted by the canal and railway. North of the railway, the land was divided into small plots which were relatively attractive for commercial use, whereas south of the railway the plots were larger, allowing expensive houses to be built where they had nice views across towards Guildford and the Hogs Back. There was of course no local authority at this time to oversee matters, the Woking Local Board not being established until 1893 and Surrey County Council only created in 1889.

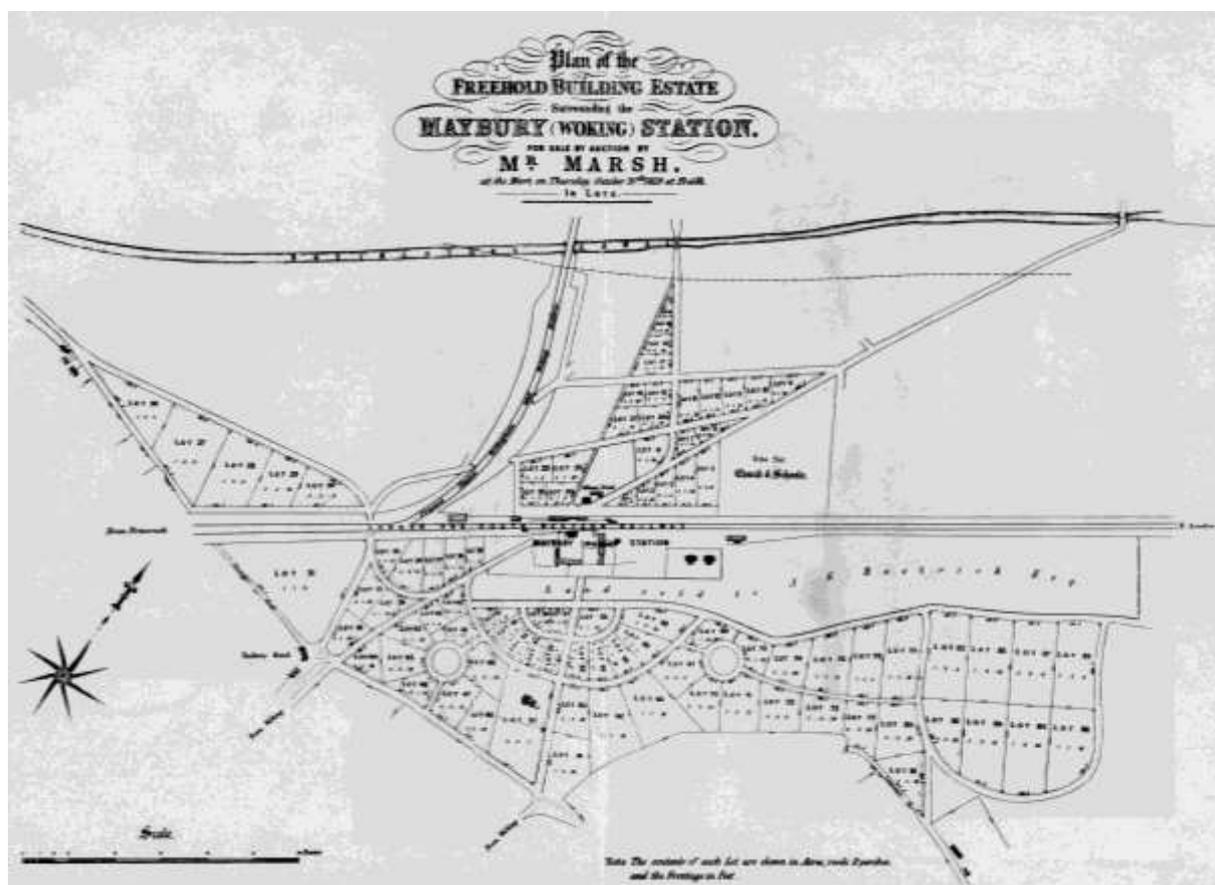


Figure 2. 1857 plan for land sales by the Necropolis Company

## **CHERTSEY ROAD**

### **Introduction**

The first building to be built north of the railway was the Albion Hotel in 1856. This was followed by the development of a line of businesses along High Street. However, as High Street was bounded on one side by the railway, it never became the focus of the town. That role was assumed *de facto* by Chertsey Road.



Figure 3. Postcard of Chertsey Road, posted in 1903

Chertsey Road was not built as a single development, rather different sections of it were developed separately from each other, albeit within an overall outline plan. The first buildings in Chertsey Road appeared in the late 1850s. Development however, was slow; the 1871 census lists just eight households.

### **House numbering**

The somewhat piecemeal development also meant that there was no coherent house numbering until about 1910. Initially, each development was numbered individually. Furthest from the station, beyond the junction with Church Street towards Chertsey Road Bridge, houses were given names rather than numbers.

On the East side of the road from the corner with Maybury Road (now the Broadway) to Addison Road, the buildings were named but also known as 1-16 Bank Buildings. Informally (including in advertisements) they were referred to as 1-16 Chertsey Road. From Walton Road to Church Street, however, the houses were numbered as 1-13 Chertsey Road. Those houses between Addison Road and Duke Street (17-28 lower Bank Buildings) were known as 17-28 Chertsey Road.

On the West side of the road, the four buildings nearest to the Albion Hotel were known as 1-4 the Pavement (presumably because the ground in front of the houses was paved)<sup>1</sup>. The three buildings nearest to the junction with

<sup>1</sup> The term 'The Pavement' was also used for a stretch of buildings in Goldsworth Road

Chobham Road were known as 1-3 The Quadrant. The six buildings nearest to the junction with Commercial Road were 1-6 The Triangle (counting from the junction and thus going in the opposite direction to all other numbering).



Figure 4. Aerial view of Chertsey Road 1971  
(running top-right to bottom-left)

In about 1910<sup>2</sup> the road was numbered consistently, from the station towards Chertsey, with odd numbers on the west (left) side and even numbers on the east (right) side. From 1910 onwards the numbering has remained (for the most part) consistent to the present day, even though modern redevelopments, like Dukes Court, have meant the elimination of batches of house numbers.

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<sup>2</sup> The old system of numbering was used in the 1908 street directory and the new system in the 1911 census

Although most of the ground-floor shop fronts underwent numerous facelifts and alterations over the years, a visitor from 1900 would still have recognised Chertsey Road in 1970. The southern end, from the station to Duke Street on the east side and from the station to Chobham Road on the west side, has survived partly intact into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Beyond Duke Street and Chobham Road however, almost nothing survived the developers' bulldozers in the 1970s and 1980s.

In order to provide a consistent reference throughout this work, the house numbers as of 1964/5 have been used. The 1965 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 plan was the first to show house numbers and they tie in with the 1964 Street Directory published by the *Woking News & Mail*.

### **Occupants of Chertsey Road**

Because Woking was a new town, it is not surprising that the majority of the inhabitants were newcomers. People from all over the south of England saw the opportunity to buy land or property at cheap (or reasonable) prices and came to make a life for themselves.

In the 1901 census, of 64 'households' listed in Chertsey Road (many of the properties had no-one actually living in them) the heads of only 10 were born in Surrey. Of those, two were born in Send and one in Horsell, the other seven coming from farther away.

<b>County</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>No.</b>
Berkshire	2	Lancashire	1	Somerset	2
Cambridgeshire	1	Lincolnshire	1	Suffolk	4
Dorset	4	London	11	Surrey	10
Essex	2	Middlesex	4	Sussex	4
Hampshire	6	Norfolk	1	Warwickshire	1
Hertfordshire	1	Northamptonshire	2	Wiltshire	3
Kent	2	Oxfordshire	1	Worcestershire	1

Table 1 County of birth of heads of households in Chertsey Road (1901 census)

This work covers that part of Chertsey Road within Woking parish; i.e., as far as the Chertsey Road bridge over the Basingstoke Canal. It does not include that part from the bridge to Ottershaw Roundabout which is in Horsell parish. It generally concentrates on the ground floors of the buildings, most of which were three or four stories high. In the early 1900s, some of the proprietors of smaller businesses lived over their shops. Others rented the upper floors to individuals or as office space.

The aim has been to produce a comprehensive chronology of occupants for each building. In many, if not most, cases this has not been possible.

- There are some gaps in the 1860-1890 period due to the paucity and/or ambiguity of the surviving records. The Ordnance Survey produced 1:1,250 scale plans, surveyed in 1870 and 1895; Most of the development of Chertsey Road (like the rest of Woking town centre) took place almost entirely during the intervening period.
- During the first and second World Wars, maps and directories were not produced, partly because of the shortage of paper and partly due to the risk of information coming into the hands of enemy agents. Electoral registers were not maintained as there were no elections during the war.
- Street directories were not produced after 1980, being replaced by the much less useful (for the historian) yellow pages and other trade directories. These have, in the main, not been preserved by libraries and record offices. In turn, these directories have been replaced by online directories - which are constantly updated and do not provide a historical record. Coupled with the faster turn-over of businesses, there are almost certainly gaps or omissions in the 1990-2010 period.

## **INFRASTRUCTURE**

When the Necropolis Company started selling land around Woking Station for development in 1857, the land was just common land. There were no gas or water mains laid, no electricity and no sewers. The early shops and houses in Chertsey Road would have been heated with open fires and lit by candles or oil lamps.

It was not until the Woking Local Board was formed, in 1893, that these infrastructure issues began to be properly addressed.

### **Drainage/Sewerage**

Sewage in Surrey, as elsewhere in the country, had been allowed to run into open drains, leaky cesspits or straight into water courses until fairly recent times. The contents of privies and cesspits were simply dumped on to the land. This allowed plagues such as cholera to spread even in rural areas, as happened in 1848, in the village of Windlesham.

Real improvement did not start until after the passing of the Public Health Acts in the 1870s. These divided the country into urban and rural sanitary authorities whose duty was to provide good water supplies and proper treatment of sewage. Woking parish came within the purview of the Guildford Rural Sanitary Authority who were responsible for sewerage, drainage and public health, as well as lighting and building regulations.

Woking's first sewage treatment plant was built in 1899, at Carters Lane. The site was chosen as it was low lying and sewage would be conveyed to the plant by gravity, thus avoiding costly pumping facilities. It is still in use today.



Figure 5. Carters Lane sewage treatment plant, 2020

## Roads

Woking also came under the Guildford Rural Highways Authority. Woking was allocated 'three wheelbarrows, three rakes, four scrapers and one pump' to maintain the public roads in the area.

When the Woking Local Board was formed in 1893 one of the first challenges facing them was the appalling state of the roads, which tended to mud in winter and dust in summer.

**THE WATER-CART.**—*To the Editor S. T.*—DEAR SIR, —Will you kindly permit me to use a small space in your valuable paper with reference to watering the streets of Woking? Some of us poor readers were rejoicing at the prospect of having our roads watered, when we saw that a water-cart would be lent at a nominal sum by the Guildford Board. Truly, we have seen it here, and that is all some of us poor shopkeepers have done. Some of the largest shops (perhaps not the largest business) have all the benefit, but we little ones have still to live in anticipation. No doubt the Board thought the cart was for the public in general and not a one-sided affair. If you could kindly enlighten me why such a thing exists I should be greatly obliged, so that if it is a party concern I may try to start another one for the many who are left out. We are willing to pay our part to defray expenses. —Yours, etc., ONE OF THE MANY LIVING IN DUST.

Figure 6. *West Surrey Times* 17 June 1893



Figure 7. Courtney Road, before being made-up, 1904

## Water

When the first houses in Chertsey Road were built, there was no supply of mains water available. Water was drawn from wells sunk in the gardens.



Figure 8. Woking & District Water Company pumping station, Horsley

The Woking Water and Gas Company was incorporated by Special Act of Parliament on 18<sup>th</sup> July 1881. The Act authorised '*the construction of works for the supply of water and gas to Woking, Send and Ripley, East and West Horsley,*

*East and West Clandon, Merrow, Horsell and Pirbright*. A well was sunk and works constructed at Clandon, which were opened in August 1883<sup>3</sup>.

Despite its name, the Woking Water and Gas Company never actually produced or delivered any gas. Its planned gas works at Kingfield were never built.

## **Gas**

Woking's first public gas works was built in Boundary Road, opening in 1892. The Woking District Gas Order 1891, confirmed by the Gas & Water Orders Confirmation Act 1891, incorporated the Woking District Gas Company.

The Woking District Gas Act 1912 dissolved and reincorporated the undertaking with no change of name. The area of supply was extended to include Wisley, Ockham, and Bisley. The Woking District Gas Order 1930 again re-defined the limits of supply.



Figure 9. Woking Gas Works 1966

On nationalisation in 1949, the undertaking became part of the East Surrey Division of South-Eastern Gas Board.

## **Electricity**

The Woking Electric Supply Company (WESCO) was incorporated in 1889; they built a power station at the corner of North Road and Board School Road, commissioned in 1890. They originally served only the central part of town, providing electricity just for domestic lighting, with the generator only operating during the hours of darkness. The original mains extended from the Goldsworth Arms to the top of Constitution Hill.

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<sup>3</sup> *Morning Post* 21 August 1883

The generating plant in 1898 comprised Corliss Compound Engines and a Belliss and Parsons steam turbine coupled directly and by belts to Mordey and Parsons dynamos. The plant had a generating capacity of 255 kW.

The first electric street lamps were lit on the evening of 28<sup>th</sup> January 1895, making Woking one of the first towns in the country to have electric street lighting. In the autumn of 1900, the contract came up for renewal. The council rejected WESCO's tender in favour of the Woking Gas Company. Just as almost every town in the country was switching from gas to electricity, Woking made the reverse change.

AUTOMATICALLY  
BY  
ELECTRICITY

CONSTANT  
HOT WATER  
at  
1d. 1/2 per UNIT

THE  
WOKING ELECTRIC  
SUPPLY CO., LTD.,  
CHOBHAM ROAD :: WOKING  
PHONE 1700

Figure 10. 1934 advertisement

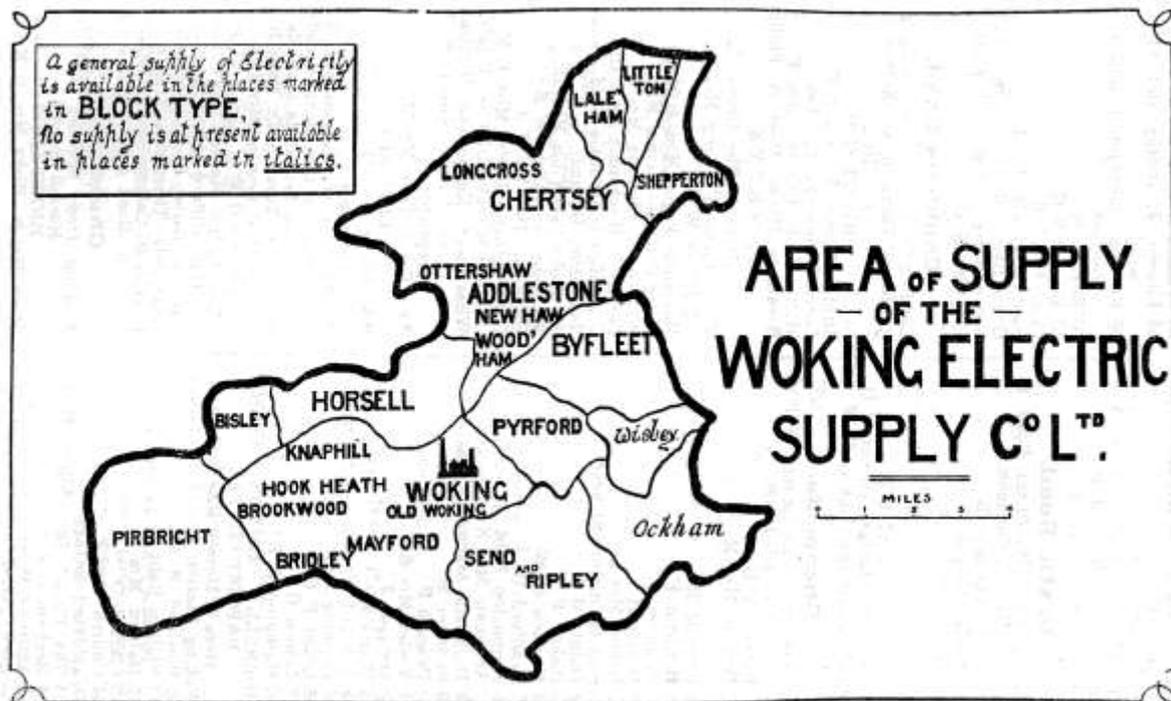


Figure 11. Area supplied with electricity in 1934



Figure 12. Board School Road power station

## **IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY**

Due to the opening of Wolsey Walk in the 1970s and The Peacocks in the 1990s, the commercial centre of Woking has moved away from Chertsey Road. It has become dominated by restaurants (9), fast food outlets (9) and bars (4)<sup>4</sup> at the southern end and by office blocks at the northern end.

In 1997 a new one-way system was introduced between Duke Street and Stanley Road. This together with traffic calming measures has made the road more pedestrian-friendly.

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<sup>4</sup> As of January 2020

## EAST SIDE (ODD NUMBERS)

### STATION ESTATE

In 1854 the Right Honourable Earl of Onslow, Lord of the Manor of Woking, conveyed substantial acreages of land to the London Necropolis Company. A larger part of this land was subsequently sold off, as surplus to the cemetery requirement, for development.

Figure 13 shows one of the early purchases in November 1859, by Henry Rastrick of Addlestone, of a triangular piece of land north of the station with the surrounding roads. The cost was £1250.

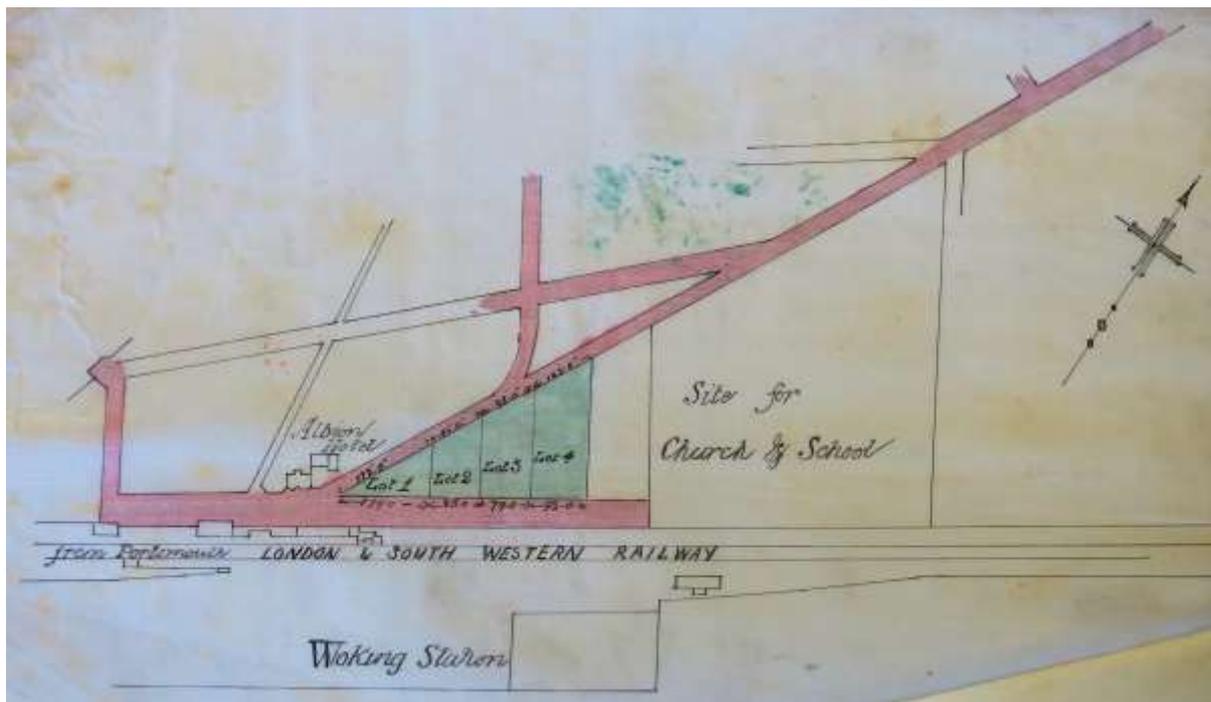


Figure 13. Land purchased by Henry Rastrick

The land long lay undeveloped and was periodically used by gypsies as a campsite.

It was purchased, in 1891, by James Harcourt Ivory. In the triangular section, shown in

**A CHRISTMAS NUISANCE.**—It seems that the residents near the Railway Station are to spend their Christmas and New Year festivities in very close proximity to a group of gipsy vans, which have taken up their quarters at Mr. George Rastrick's ground, where they may be said to disfigure the customary appearance of that locality. The collection of caravans provides all the paraphernalia of a country fair.

Figure 14. Surrey Advertiser 2 January 1882

Figure 15, bounded by Chertsey Road, Maybury Road and what would later become Duke Street, he laid out 44 plots in what was called Station Estate, which he subsequently sold for development.

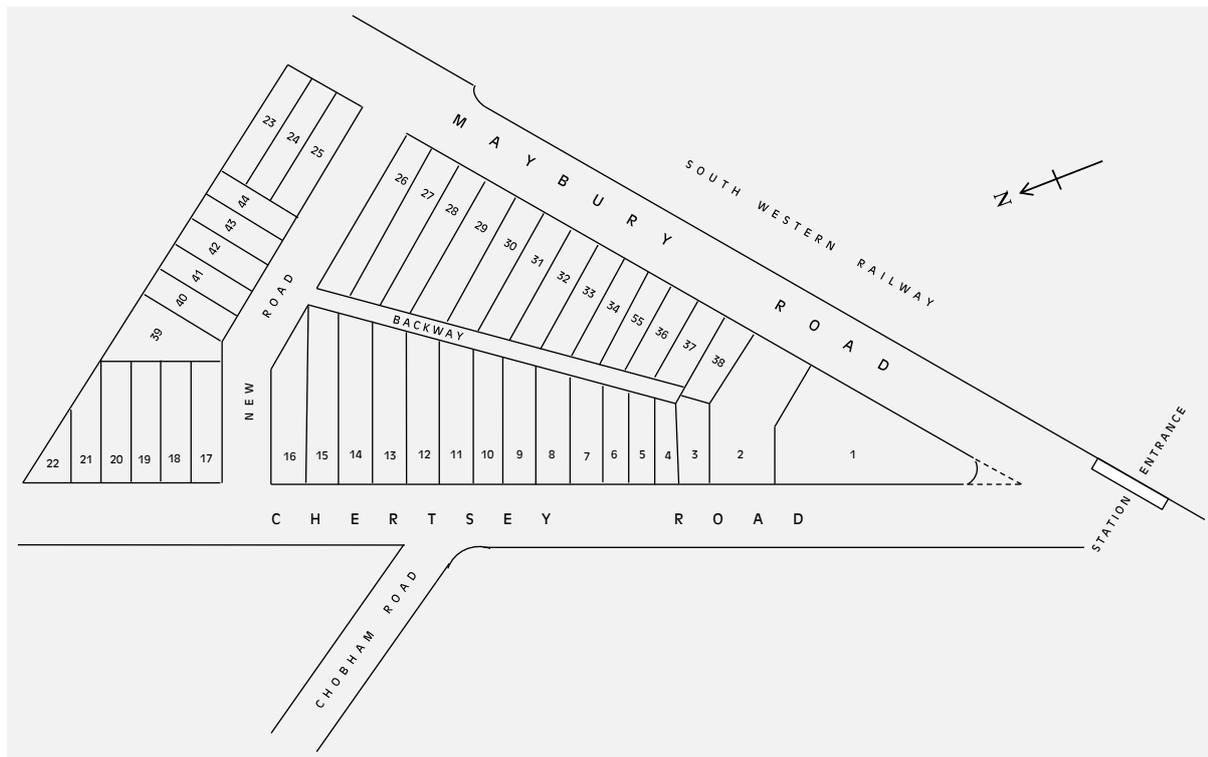


Figure 15. Plan of Station Estate

## **BANK BUILDINGS**

In January 1891 John and Frederick Ashby, bankers of Staines, bought a number of plots (including no. 1) in the Station Estate. On plot 1 they built a new building for the Woking branch of their bank, which had started as a sub-branch to the Chertsey branch in about 1882.

Plots 1-16 of Station Estate subsequently became known as Bank Buildings.

### **No. 1 - The Bank**

The Staines Bank of Thomas Ashby & Co. first started operating in Woking in 1880<sup>5</sup>. By February that year, they had a sub-branch in Commercial Road; The manager was in attendance on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11am until 3pm<sup>6</sup>.

After purchasing plot number 1 in Station Estate in 1891, Ashby & Co. built a new bank which opened in about 1892<sup>7</sup>. The upper floor of Ashby's new branch building also housed the original offices of Woking Urban District Council. The Council were in the process of building new premises in Commercial Road when, on 6th June 1899, their offices above Ashby's Bank were burnt out - this was somewhat ironic as the council was, at the time, reluctant to pay for a new fire engine! The building was rebuilt with three stories replacing the original two.

<sup>5</sup> *Surrey Advertiser* 6 Dec 1879 & 7 February 1880

<sup>6</sup> *Kelly's Directory of Surrey* 1882

<sup>7</sup> *Surrey Advertiser* 11 June 1893



Figure 16. Ashby's Bank 1898 and the 1899 fire

Following the fire, the building was rebuilt with three stories replacing the original two.



Figure 17. Rebuilt Ashby's Bank

On first January 1904, Ashby's Bank was taken over by Barclays Bank. Barclays occupied the bank premises until 1990 when they moved to new premises in Church Street East.

The building has had a couple of cosmetic facelifts during those 80 years but has remained largely unchanged, structurally. It is locally listed as being of Townscape Merit.

After Barclays vacated the building, it became home to one of the first Fatty Arbuckle's franchises.

### **Fatty Arbuckle's**

Pete Shotton and Bill Turner, two friends from Liverpool, opened the first Fatty Arbuckle's outlet in Plymouth in 1983.

Fatty Arbuckle's was modelled on American diners, and had a retro Hollywood theme. There was a focus on large portions served on 13-inch plates. The restaurant was named after Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle, one of the most successful silent film actors in the 1910s.

Each new outlet was to prove an immediate success. Franchise outlets were opened from 1991, which allowed the chain to rapidly expand to 22 restaurants in 1995. Arbuckle's was the largest American-style restaurant chain in Britain by 1997, with 42 outlets.

Arbuckle's, with its focus on beef burgers and steaks, was hit hard when a BSE epidemic struck Britain in 1996; 70% of its sales had been burgers.

Since 1998 it has been home to first Alldays and then Budgens grocery stores.

Occupants of No. 1	
1894-1903	Thomas Ashby & Co., bankers
1904-90	Barclays Bank
1994-97	Fatty Arbuckles, American style diner
1998-2006	Alldays
2008-20	Budgens



Figure 18. Budgens 2020

### No. 3 - 2 Bank Buildings

Number 2 Bank Buildings was built c.1892 on part of plot 1 of Station Estate. It was occupied from 1892 by C T Tyler & Co., wine and spirit merchants. In 1923, Tyler & Co. opened a second branch across the road in No. 4 (see page 117), before closing the branch at No. 3 a few years later.

In 1900, the first floor was in use as the office of the Surrey Advertiser & Woking Observer.

#### Tyler & Co / Victoria Wine

Charles Thomas Tyler was born in Kennington in 1839. In 1861 he was a paper-maker at Newark Mills. When he married Elizabeth Manners in 1865, he was living in Lambeth and was described as a publisher.

In about 1872, Charles moved to Send; in 1874 he describes himself as 'gentleman' and in 1875 as 'brewer'. Charles then went into partnership with his brother-in-law, Henry Manners, as Wine and Spirits Merchants and Brewers' Agents, trading as C T Tyler & Co.<sup>8</sup> This partnership was dissolved on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1882<sup>9</sup>, Henry Manners presumably withdrawing.

In 1894, Charles opened a shop in Chertsey Road, Woking. Following Charles's death in 1905, the firm was incorporated as a subsidiary of Friary, Holroyd & Healeys Breweries Ltd. In 1961 Allied Breweries acquired the Friary Meux Limited (as it then was) and Tyler & Co. was merged with the Victoria Wine Company (which was owned by Allied).

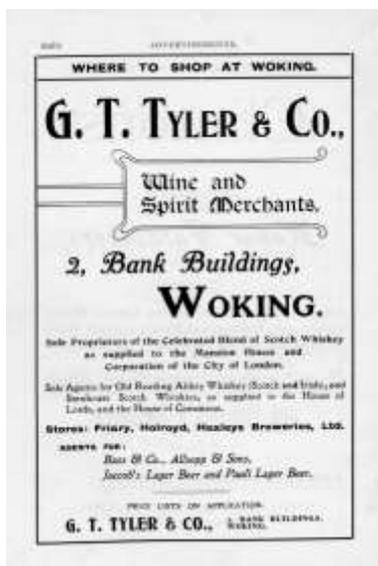


Figure 19. 1905 Advertisement



Figure 20. Tyler & Co.'s shop & staff 1905

<sup>8</sup> 1881 England Census Class: RG11; Piece: 774; Folio: 20; Page: 34;

<sup>9</sup> London Gazette 6 June 1882

Following the departure of Tyler & Co., the shop was used for about four years by Enticknap & Enticknap, estate agents.

It was then occupied by Hodges & Co., butchers, for over 45 years (in Figure 21, Hodges' shop is the one with the open blind).

In about 1980, the building became home to the short-lived Hodges Wine Bar.



Figure 21. Hodges & Co.

Since 2007, the building has been home to Woking Kebabs, shared with Mr Cod since 2017. The building is locally listed as being of Architectural or Historic Merit.

Occupants of No. 3	
1892-1925	G T Tyler & Co., wine and spirit merchants
1926-27	Enticknap and Enticknap, house & estate agents
1928-77	Hodges & Co., butchers
1981	Hodges Wine Bar
1995	<i>Vacant</i>
2000	Helping Hand
2007-17	Woking Kebabs
2017-20	Mr Cod incorporating Woking Kebabs



Figure 22. Mr Cod 2020

### No. 5 - 3 Bank Buildings

Number 3 Bank Buildings was built c.1893 also on part of plot 1 of Station Estate. The first occupants were Geddes & Austin, auctioneers.

From 1903 until 1921, Joseph Comber, goldsmith, silversmith and optician had his shop here.

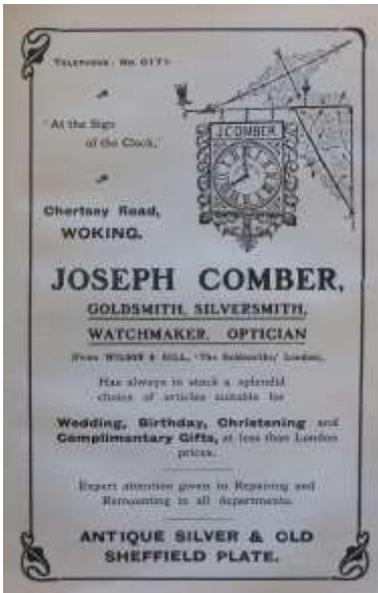


Figure 23. 1905 Advert



Figure 24. Interior of Joseph Comber's shop 1903

From 1921-27, a similar jeweller's business was run from the premises by George Langford.



Figure 25. Langford Advertisement 1926

The National Provincial Bank moved into the building, in 1930. The National Provincial Bank and the Westminster Bank merged, in 1968, to form the National Westminster Bank (now NatWest).



Figure 26. National Provincial Bank

National Westminster Bank kept both branches operating until 1970, when they closed the Chertsey Road branch, retaining the branch at the top of High Street.

After the bank closed, the solicitors, W Davies & Son, moved into the premises, which they still occupy today.

The building is locally listed as being of Architectural or Historic Merit.

Occupants of No. 5	
1894-1900	[Samuel] Geddes & Austin, auctioneers
1901-03	William Skeet
1905-21	Joseph Comber, goldsmith, silversmith and optician
1921-27	George Langford, goldsmith, silversmith and optician
1928-68	National Provincial Bank
1968-70	National Westminster Bank
197?-2020	W Davies & Son, solicitors

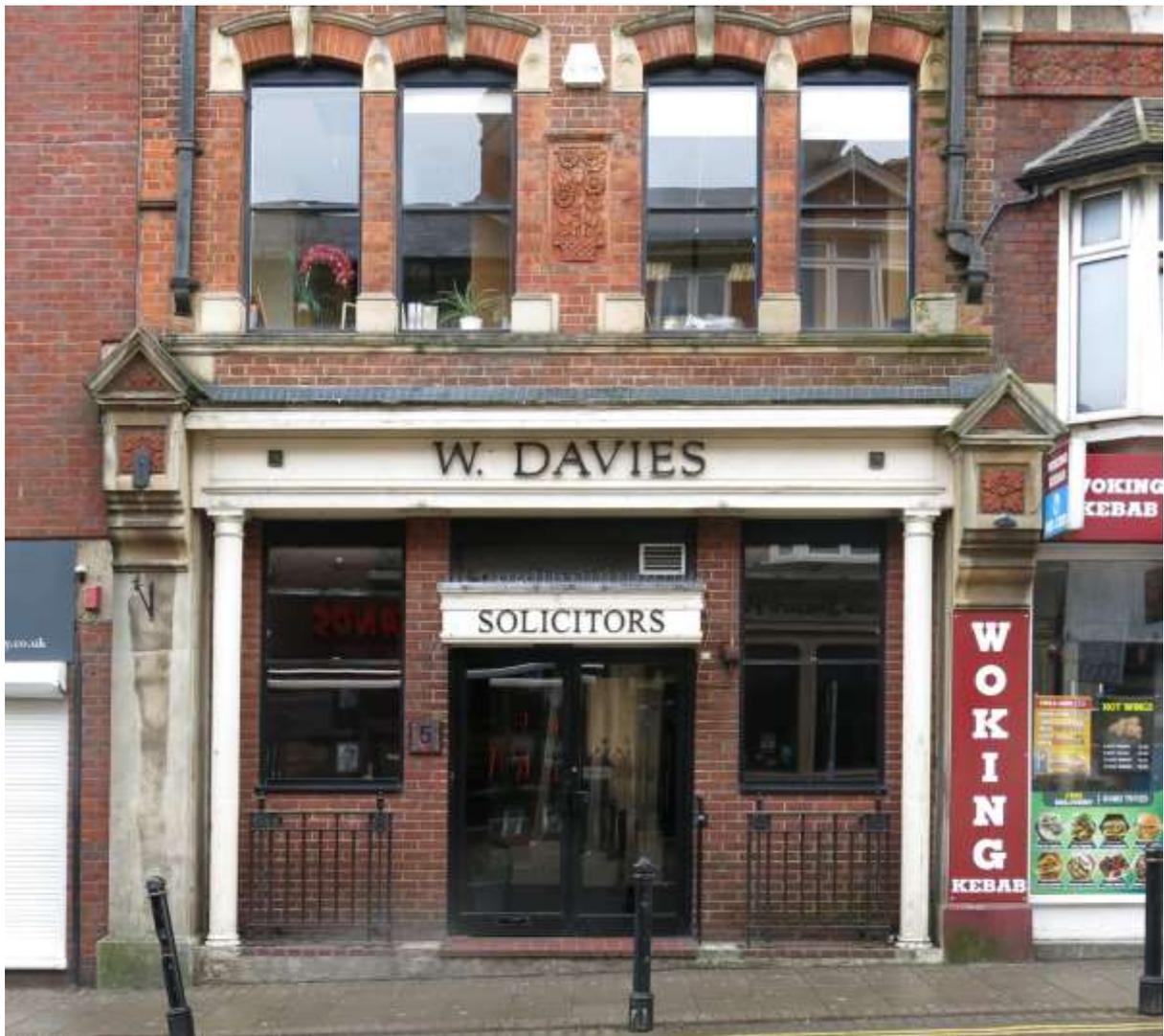


Figure 27. W Davies 2020

### **No. 7 - 4 Bank Buildings**

Prior to 1895, Woking's post office had a number of homes, in Walton Road, Chertsey Road and the High Street. In 1894, a new home was planned in Bank Buildings. No. 4 Bank Buildings was built in 1893/44 on plots 2, 3 & 4 of Station Estate (shown in Figure 28); the foundations were laid in July 1893<sup>10</sup>.

The new Post Office comprised a two-storey section on plot 2, with a three-storey section incorporating a grand entrance on plots 3 and 4. It had entrances on Maybury Road (now the Broadway) and Chertsey Road.

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<sup>10</sup> *Surrey Times* 29 July 1893

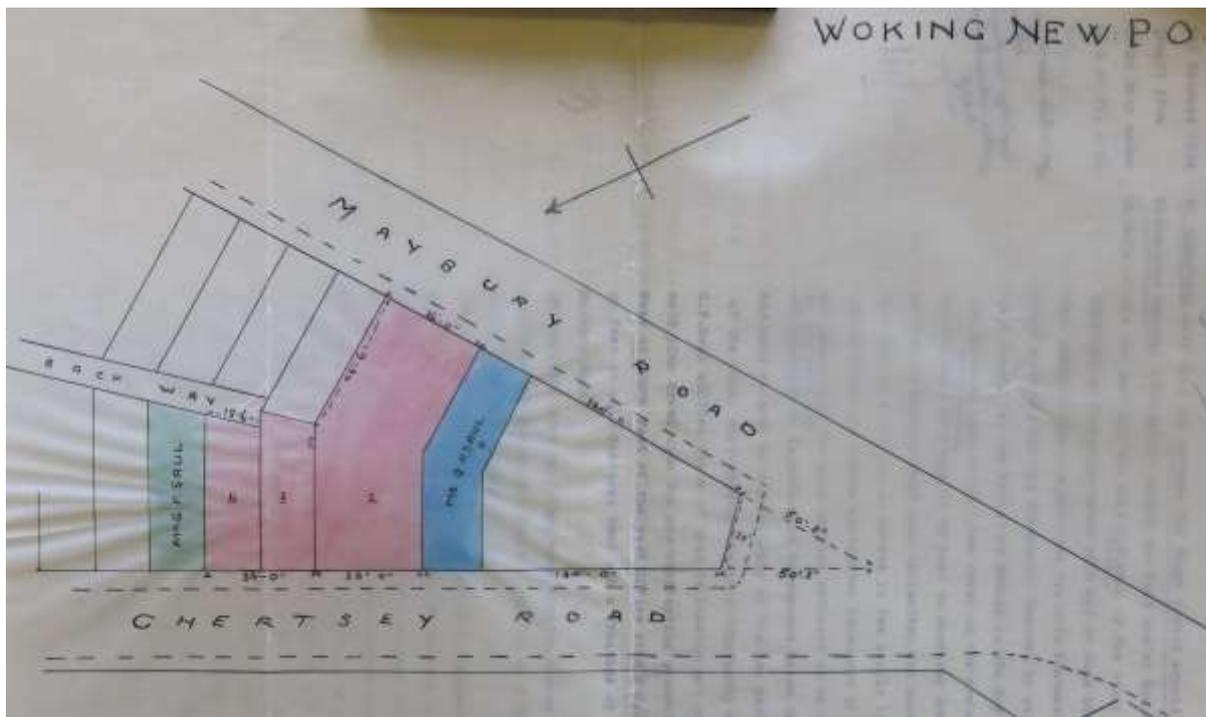


Figure 28. Plan for new Post Office (red)

When David Glover moved on, in 1901, he reflected on the changes in his ten years as Woking's postmaster: Staff numbers had increased from 40 to 120; letters from 16,000 a week to 110,000 and parcels from less than 1000 per week to 20,000.

The post office building was initially also used for sorting the mail. As the town continued to grow, larger facilities were needed for this function and a new sorting office was built south of the railway in about 1911<sup>11,12</sup>.



Figure 29. Post Office 1898

<sup>11</sup> *Woking Post Office. Sorting Office. Erection.* H. Gough, 10 December 1910, National Archives WORK 13/443

<sup>12</sup> It would have been at this time that the telephone exchange was constructed in the rear of the building (Under the Telephone Transfer Act 1911 The National Telephone Company was taken over by the General Post Office (GPO) in 1912)



Figure 30. Post Office c1970

In 1935 the sorting office to the south of the railway was replaced by a new building (the current one) on the same site.

The Chertsey Road building was remodelled, in about 1950, for exclusive use as the telephone exchange (which had previously been located at the rear of the post office). In 1968 the new telephone exchange in Oriental Road was opened.

The post office moved into temporary accommodation in Commercial Road<sup>13</sup> in 1950, awaiting the building of new premises (again).

Occupants of No. 7	
1895-1950	Post Office
1950-68	GPO Telephone Exchange

### **Barratt House / Aqua House**

The Post Office was demolished in the mid-1970s and a new structure, Barratt House was built on the site.

This was an extension to Robinsons, next door, who said that “customers preferred to shop on the ground floor, rather than climb stairs”. The upper floors contained offices.



Figure 31. Barratt House construction

<sup>13</sup> In what was previously the Rendezvous Restaurant and would later be Robinsons (briefly) and Methvens bookshop

The right-hand-side retail unit became known as No. 7, the left-hand unit (Robinsons) No. 9. Robinsons gentlemen’s clothing department was there until the store finally closed its doors on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1997.



Figure 32. Closing down sale 1997

In 2014, Barratt House was put up for sale. It was described as “... two ground floor retail units and approximately 6,165sq.ft of B1a office space on the upper four floors. The property is currently producing an annual income of approximately £125,875 and benefits from planning permission to convert the office space into eleven residential units, 5 x 1-bedroom and 6 x 2-bedroom apartments.” It was purchased, converted, and renamed as Aqua House.

No. 7 (Barratt/Aqua House) has had a variety of occupants, none of them staying more than about five years.



Figure 33. Grota Polish delicatessen 2014

After Robinsons vacated the new No. 9, it was taken over by Subway, who are there to this day.

Occupants of No. 7	
1976-81	Mr Flaks, men’s fashion
1981	Drews Ltd, pine furniture
1987-91	Lynwood Home Design (Kitchens)
1995-97	Fantastic Sam’s, hairdresser
2007-11	Renaissance Hair
2011-15	Grota Polish Deli
2016-	Lauren Elizabeth, beauty boutique

Occupants of No. 9	
1976-97	Robinsons
1998-	Subway, sandwich bar



Figure 34. Aqua House 2020

### No. 9 – 5 Bank Buildings

No. 9 Chertsey Road was built in about 1893. The first known occupier was Harringtons Ltd, a confectioner, whose shop can just be seen on the right in Figure 35.

In 1907/8, Harringtons' shop was taken over by Maynards Ltd<sup>14</sup>, confectioners, who traded there for the next 60 years.

When Robinsons expanded their store from No.s 13-17 to No.s 11-17 (see page 27), Albert Pocock's tobacco shop moved from No. 11 into the street-front section of No. 9<sup>15</sup>. Maynards moved across the road into No. 24.



Figure 35. Harringtons' shop 1902

In 1970, Pocock's shop closed and Robinsons took the whole of No. 9.

Since 1986, the building has been home to McDonald's.

Occupants of No. 9	
1895-07	Harringtons, confectioners
1908-64	Maynards, confectioners
1965	Pocock's Ltd, tobacconist & confectioner
1966	<i>Rebuilt</i>

<sup>14</sup> Charles Riley Maynard and his brother Tom started manufacturing sweets in 1880 in their kitchen in Stamford Hill, London. In 1896 the brothers formed the Maynards sweet company. Maynard's Wine Gums were introduced in 1909. The company eventually had 140 shops.

<sup>15</sup> Albert Pocock (by then deceased) had owned both No. 9 and No. 11

1967-70	Robinson's / Pocock's Ltd
1971-86	Robinson's
1986-	McDonald's

### **No.s 11 & 13 - 6 Bank Buildings/'Imperial Building'**

No. 6 Bank Buildings, also known as Imperial Building was built in about 1893 for George Frederick Saul. He opened his two stores (one for groceries and provisions, the other for wines and spirits) in July 1893.<sup>16</sup>

George Saul sold the premises (with No. 5 Bank Buildings) to Henry Holman Greenwood in January 1894, but continued to occupy the premises.

Albert Pocock was born in Hertfordshire in 1859 and was living in London prior to his move to Woking in about 1898.

Albert opened a tobacconist shop in No. 2 Chertsey Road (later No. 71 – see page 83). In 1901, he purchased the freehold of No.s 5 & 6 Bank Buildings from Henry Greenwood<sup>17</sup> for £2000 plus interest. Two shops had been erected on Plot 6 of Station Estate (later No.s 11 & 13). Albert moved into No. 11 Chertsey Road, seen in Figure 36.



Figure 36. Albert Pocock's shop c1908

Albert paid off the outstanding principal sum of £2000 in 1907.

Albert Pocock died on 1<sup>st</sup> December 1936, aged 77. The business was converted to a limited company and carried on trading until 1971. On 11<sup>th</sup> August 1971, a liquidator was appointed to wind up the company.<sup>18</sup>

Occupants of No. 11	
1893-98	Saul Brothers, general grocers
1901-64	Albert Pocock Ltd, wholesale & retail tobacconists
1968-1981	Robinson's
1986-2020	McDonald's

<sup>16</sup> *Surrey Times* 29 July 1893

<sup>17</sup> *Mr H H Greenwood to Mr A Pocock Reconveyance of a message shops and premises situate in Chertsey Road Woking in the County of Surrey*, 23 January 1907, SHC 8522/1/1

<sup>18</sup> *London Gazette* 27 August 1971

Albert rented the other half of Imperial Building (No. 13) to a Mr J Reeve, undertaker, who was in occupation in 1901-2.

In 1905, Edward John Elstow, who had a boot-making business at 87 Chertsey Road (see page 93), opened a second store in No. 13. He was replaced by the John Farmer Shoe Company in about 1922, who traded there for the next forty years.

Occupants of No. 13	
1893-1900	Saul Brothers, general grocers
1901-2	J Reeve's, undertaker
1905-21	Edward John Elstow, boot retailer
1923-57	John Farmer Shoe Company
1964-1981	Robinson's
1986-2020	McDonald's

Imperial Building was demolished in 1965 after Robinsons had purchased it and decided to rebuild their department store.

Since 1986, the building has been home to McDonald's.



Figure 37. McDonalds 2020

### **No.s 15 to 33 – 7-16 Bank Buildings**

No.s 15 to 33 Chertsey Road were built in 1892/93 and were designated 7-16 Bank Buildings. These eight buildings were built to the same design, presumably by the same builder, for the developer, Reuben Blake.

### **No.s 15 & 17 – 7/8 Bank Buildings/‘Waterloo House’**

No.s 7 & 8 Bank Buildings, also known as Waterloo House, was built in about 1893 by Reuben Blake. In 1894 Reuben Blake sold the land and

Waterloo House to Horace Tibbenham whose brother Stanley Urban Tibbenham ran a drapery business there under the name of 'Tibbenham Brothers'.

Stanley Tibbenham had left his family (parents and siblings) in Suffolk. In 1900 he married a Woking girl and had two children – in 1901 and 1903. In 1902, Horace conveyed Waterloo House to Stanley. Then in March 1903, Stanley leased the shop to James Archibald and moved back to Suffolk.



Figure 38. Tibbenham's shop 1902

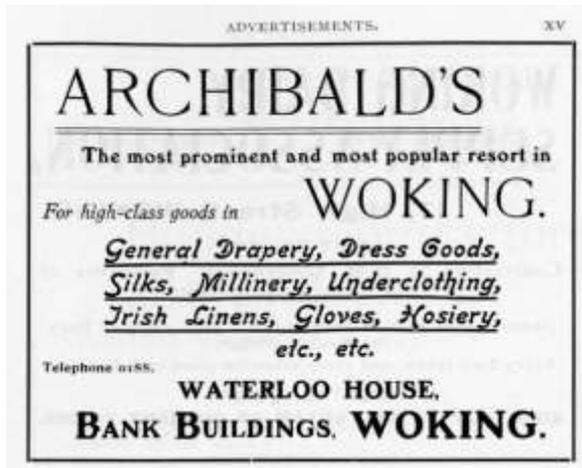


Figure 39. Archibald's advertisement 1908

James Archibald ran his drapery business for just four years. The building was then leased to the Fairhurst Brothers, of Preston, Lancashire. The brothers were Francis Herbert 'Frank' Fairhurst, Robert Fairhurst and William Ewart Fairhurst. They had a drapery business from 1907 to 1919, presumably run by managers on their behalf.



Figure 40. The shop in Fairhurst livery c1908

Alfred Wyles was born in Canada, in about 1875. He was living in Addlestone, working as a draper at the Central Stores there when, in 1919, he took over the lease of Waterloo House from the Fairhurst Brothers. Two years later he bought the premises.

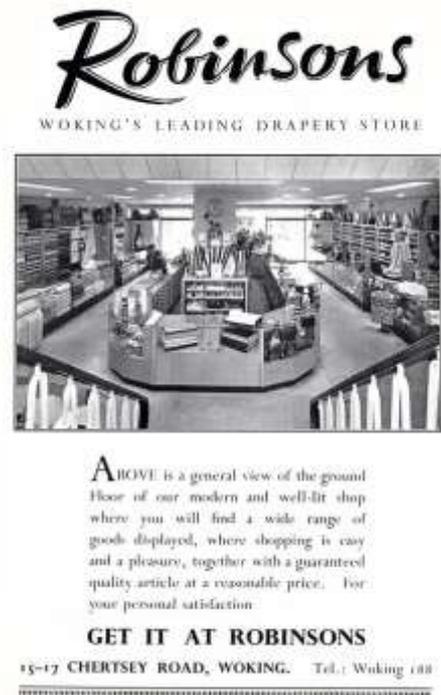
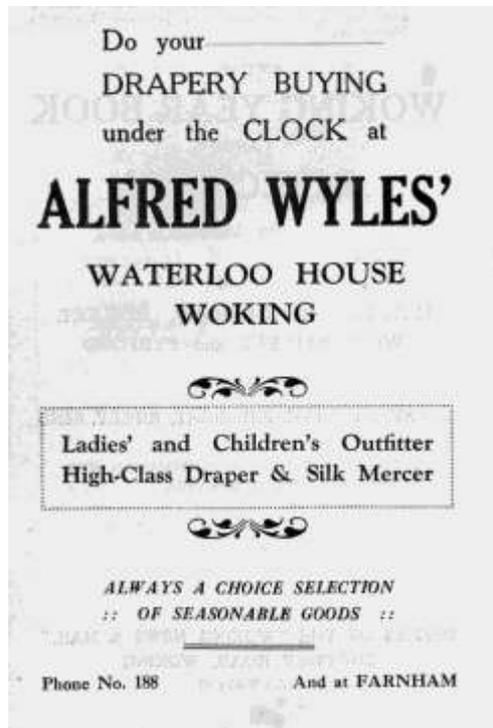


Figure 41. 1930s Adverts for Alfred Wyles and Robinsons

### Robinsons (Woking) Ltd

William Hensman Robinson was born on 19<sup>th</sup> April 1888 in Kempston, Bedfordshire, the son of John William Bird Robinson, a farmer, and his wife, Annie.

In the 1911 census, William was working as a draper's assistant. In 1934, William, with his brother, John Dexter, was able to buy the business at 15-17 Chertsey Road, from Alfred Wyles.<sup>19</sup>

John died in 1943, his daughter, Joyce, becoming a director.

When William died in 1946, the business passed to his four youngest children<sup>20</sup>: Elizabeth Ann H Robinson, David Allan Robinson, Mrs Isobel Mary Willis and John Burr Robinson. The business grew and expanded into, first No. 13, then in 1961, they purchased No.s 9 and 11. This allowed them to build their famous orange and glass five-storey department store. During the demolition and rebuilding they occupied No. 22 across the street. Robinsons remained a family-run business until it closed its doors on Saturday 3rd May 1997.



Figure 42. William Hensman Robinson 1888-1946

<sup>19</sup> Conveyance from Alfred Wyles to Mess<sup>rs</sup> Robinsons (Woking) Limited, dated 27<sup>th</sup> February 1934

<sup>20</sup> It is not known what happened to his eldest son, John W Robinson, born 1826

Alfred Wyles sold the property to Mess<sup>rs</sup> Robinson (Woking), drapers, in 1934.

Waterloo House was demolished in 1965 when Robinsons rebuilt their department store. Having outgrown No.s 15-17, Robinson's had already expanded into No. 13, in 1955.

Now, having purchased No.s 9 and 11 from Albert Pocock, they decided to demolish Waterloo House, Imperial Building and No. 5 Bank Buildings (No. 9) and rebuild. During the period of demolition and rebuilding, they took over No. 22 directly across the road. The new building was a typical 1960s box-like design of five storeys, with bright orange panels between the rows of windows. The top floor housed a popular restaurant.



Figure 43. Robinsons c1967

Robinsons remained until 1985. The shop thus had more than 90 years continuity of business as a drapers.

Since 1986, the building had been home to McDonald's hamburger restaurant.

In 2020/21, Leos Group converted the upper floors of No.s 9-17 into twenty-five 1, 2, and 3-room residential apartments. The development is known as Waterloo House and the entrance is the former ground floor of No. 17.

Occupants of No.s 15 & 17	
1894-1903	Tibbenham Brothers (Stanley Tibbenham), drapers
1903-07	James Archibald, draper
1907-19	Fairhurst Brothers, drapers
1919-34	Alfred Wyles, draper & costumier
1935-1985	Robinsons Ltd
1986-2020	McDonald's

## No. 19 - 9 Bank Buildings

No. 9 Bank Buildings was built in about 1893.

The first occupant was Tyler's boot shop. Tyler's was a Leicester firm founded in about 1860. In 1901, the manager of the store was Henry J Flowerday and, in 1911, George Newington.

J Sainsbury opened their first store in Woking at No. 19 Chertsey Road, in 1919. Figure 46 shows a letter from the new store (which appears to be a form letter) to potential customers announcing their wares and delivery schedule.

In October 1933, Sainsbury's opened a new store in Woking High Street. The Chertsey Road branch was presumably closed shortly afterwards.

Boots, the chemists, who had moved into No. 21 in the mid-1920s took the opportunity to expand into No. 19 in 1936/7.

After a brief spell in the 1980s when Texas Décor occupied the buildings, it was home to Pizza Hut for 25 years. It was then, briefly, an Italian ice-cream parlour and since 2017 has been a branch of Taco Bell.



Figure 44. Tyler's boot shop 1902



Figure 45. Pizza Hut 2008

J. SAINSBURY'S PROVISION STORES,

19 Chertsey Road, WOKING.

Tel. No. 325.

September, 1919.

Dear Madam,

We have made arrangements whereby we shall be able to deliver by horse and cart in your district on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and we beg respectfully to ask your permission to allow us to submit a sample tray of our provisions and table delicacies, for your inspection.

We will guarantee to supply you with the finest quality obtainable in -

PROVISIONS  
CHARCUTERIE  
POULTRY  
GAME, and  
GROCERIES,

and at prices which will compare favourably with any other establishment.

Our local branch will receive daily arrivals of all perishable goods, and you may rely upon perfect freshness and regular service.

If we have not already been favoured by a visit, we respectfully invite you to inspect our premises, which are fitted up in the most hygienic way, to ensure absolute cleanliness.

The registration for the purchase of Butter and Sugar has to be completed this month, and if you will nominate us as your Suppliers, you will receive the choicest butter made, and British refined sugar of pre-war standard and quality.

Thanking you in anticipation of your esteemed commands,

We are,

Yours faithfully,

J. SAINSBURY,

*W. S. Wood*  
----- Manager.

Figure 46. Customer letter from J Sainsbury



Figure 47. Texas Décor 1986



Figure 48. Cream's 2015

Occupants of No. 19	
1896-1919	Tyler's, boots
1919-33	J Sainsbury
1935-75	Boots, chemists
1980-87	Texas Décor
1988-2012	Pizza Hut
2014-17	Cream's Italian Gelato
2017-20	Taco Bell – Beatbox on 1 <sup>st</sup> floor



Figure 49. Taco Bell 2019

## No. 21 – 10 Bank Buildings/'Oxford House'

Built in c.1893, 10 Bank Buildings (also known as Oxford House<sup>21</sup>) was first occupied by Charles Edward Watkins, an ironmonger – from 1894 until 1919. By 1901 however, Charles was not living in Oxford House<sup>22</sup>.

In addition to the ironmongery business, Charles was an agent for Norwich Union Fire Insurance and the sole agent for Glacier Window Decorations.

His advertisement in 1908 (Figure 50) also has 'ammunition and sports depot' - possibly on the first floor.

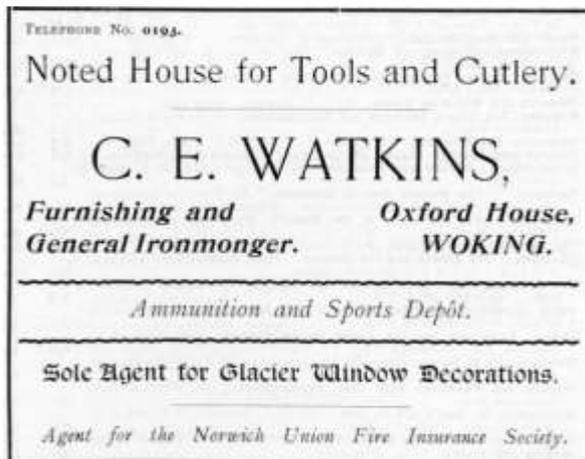


Figure 50. Watkins advertisement 1908



Figure 51. Sports Depot sign c.1915

Charles Watkins retired in 1919/20 and Michael Harry Westgate took over the building for his second shop.

Michael Harry Westgate was born in Romford, Essex where, in 1891, he was an ironmonger's assistant.

He moved to Woking in 1900 and set up on his own account, in the Broadway, Maybury Road. In 1913 he moved into Chobham Road.

Michael Westgate retired in 1926.

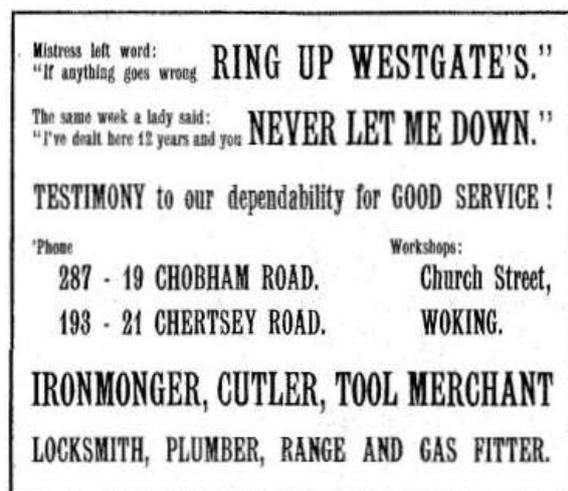


Figure 52. Westgate advertisement 1925

Boots, the chemists, who had opened up in No. 26 in 1920, moved across the road and took over No. 21.

<sup>21</sup> Probably because Charles Watkins's family came from Oxford and he was born there

<sup>22</sup> Charles Watkins lived, firstly in Bath Road and then in York Road.

When J Sainsbury opened their new store in the High Street and moved out of Chertsey Road, Boots took the opportunity to expand and moved into No. 19 in 1936/7. It was probably at this time that the front of the two buildings was remodelled in the art deco style (seen in Figure 53).



Figure 53. Boots c1939

Boots moved out in the mid-1970s into their new Commercial Way store – part of the Wolsey Place development.

After a brief spell in the 1980s, when Texas Décor occupied the buildings, it was home to Pizza Hut for 25 years. It was then, briefly, an Italian ice-cream parlour and since 2017 has been a branch of Taco Bell.

Occupants of No. 21	
1894-1919	Charles Edward Watkins, ironmonger
1920-26	Michael Harry Westgate, ironmonger
1926-75	Boots, chemists
1980-86	Texas Décor
1988-2012	Pizza Hut
2014-17	Cream's Italian Gelato
2017-20	Taco Bell

### **No. 23 - 11 Bank Buildings**

Freeman, Hardy & Willis, the shoe retailer, was established in 1875 and was named after three employees of the company, one of whom was Alfred

Freeman, a Russian shoe maker who resided in St Pancras, London. A branch was opened in Woking at No. 11 Bank Buildings in about 1894.

In 1929 the company was acquired by Sears plc<sup>23</sup>. Its subsidiary, the Leicester-based British Shoe Corporation, went on to own the Trueform, Curtess, Dolcis, Manfield, Saxone, and Lilley & Skinner brands.

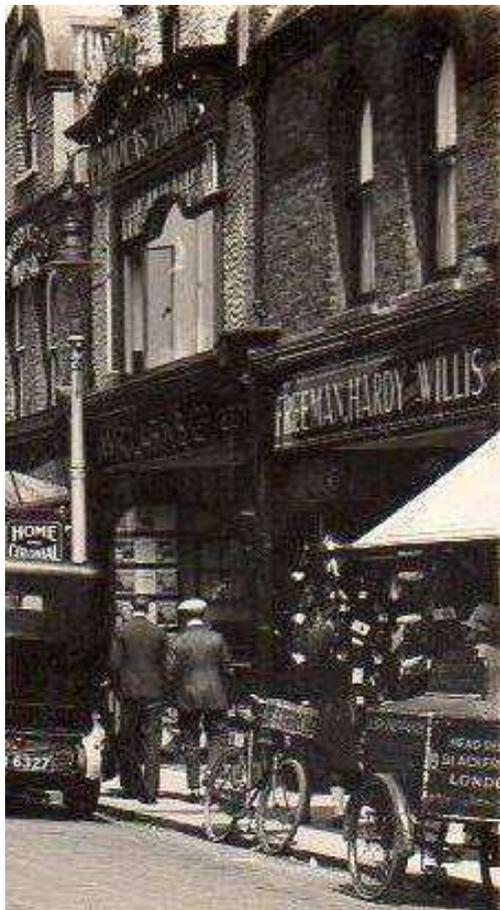


Figure 54. FHW c1920



Figure 55. FHW c1960



Figure 56. Ryman 2008



Figure 57. Will's 2015

Ryman the stationers moved into No. 23, in about 1990. They stayed for approximately 20 years, before moving into the Peacocks Centre. Since

<sup>23</sup> *American Multinationals and Innovation in British Retailing, 1850-1962*

about 2010, the building has been home to a succession of fast-food restaurants.



Figure 58. Khon Kaen Hor Khao 2017



Figure 59. Codfather's 2020

Occupants of No. 23	
1899-1972	Freeman, Hardy & Willis, boot and footwear retailers
1985-88	Satellite
1995-2009	Ryman, stationers
2012-14	<i>vacant</i>
2014-16	Will's Tex Mex & Grill
2016-17	Khon Kaen Hor Khao, Thai restaurant
2018-19	Burger Box
2019-20	Codfather's
2020-	Woody's, burgers & chicken



Figure 60. Woody's 2020

The building is locally listed as being of Townscape Merit.

## No. 25 - 12 Bank Buildings/'Beethoven House'

12 Bank Buildings was first occupied in 1894, when William Barnett Bayliss opened his greengrocery shop. William Bayliss opened a second shop at No. 3 Chobham Road, in 1911. Two years later he closed the shop in Chertsey Road.

The Guildford firm of Clarks, piano retailers took over the building in 1913, naming it Beethoven House. In 1918, it was advertised as the Woking Conservatoire of Music & Branch of The Tobias Matthay Pianoforte School<sup>24,25</sup>.



**Pianos & Pianola-Pianos**  
No place in the County offers such a fine and large stock of personally selected High-Grade Pianos and Pianolas at such low prices, either for cash or deferred payment. The latest new models can be tested side by side, ensuring a satisfactory choice

**Gramophones & Records**  
You cannot do better than come to our special Gramophone Showrooms to select a Gramophone; we hold a very large stock of the newest models which have been tested and can be guaranteed, while the stock of new Records is over 10,000 to choose from

**Tuning and Repairing**  
At your service, a special staff of highly-trained Tuners, Pianola Experts and Repairers, capable of attending to the most exacting requirements of all instruments. Efficiency and satisfaction guaranteed

**CLARKS**  
The Piano House

<b>GUILDFORD,</b> 94, 95 & 96 High St. Phone 194.	<b>WOKING,</b> 25 Chertsey Road. ALSO AT BASINGSTOKE. Phone 324.
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38



Figure 61. Clarks advertisement 1928

Figure 62. Timothy Whites 1960s

Clarks was succeeded by Timothy Whites. A branch of Timothy Whites was opened in Woking in 1900. It was located at No. 24 Chertsey Road (see page 141). In 1935, Timothy Whites merged with Taylors Drug Co. Ltd to form

<sup>24</sup> Kelly's Directory of Surrey 1918

<sup>25</sup> Tobias Matthay is one of the most controversial figures in twentieth-century piano pedagogy. Glorified by some and vilified by others, he left copious theoretical writings which, today, are little studied by serious pianists and teachers. In 1922, Frederick Corder, a composition professor at London's Royal Academy of Music, wrote that Matthay had revolutionized piano teaching and brought British pianism to new heights internationally; by contrast, less than fifty years later, British composer and pianist Alan Bush declared that Matthay was "the ruination" of pianism in England.

Timothy Whites & Taylors. A second branch, under this name was opened at 25 Chertsey Road.

The company was taken over by Boots Pure Drug Co. in 1968. In the rationalisation that followed, Boots absorbed the pharmaceutical side of the business, leaving Timothy Whites with just 196 shops that sold only housewares.

The Timothy Whites store closed in 1972. It was replaced by John Manson Ltd, butchers.

For about 20 years, until 2019, the shop was occupied by Lickety Split, a coffee and sandwich bar.

Since 2020, the building has been home to Jackets & Juices. The building is locally listed as being of Townscape Merit.



Figure 63. Lickety Split 2015

Occupants of No. 25	
1894-1912	William Barnett Bayliss, fruiterer
1913-36	Clark's Ltd, piano and music salon
1936-72	Timothy Whites & Taylors, household stores
1973-88	John Manson Ltd, butchers
1989-91	English Terry, butcher
1991-96	AA Insurance
1998-2019	Lickety Split, coffee & sandwich bar
2020-	Jackets & Juices



Figure 64. Jackets & Juices 2020

### **No. 27 - 13 Bank Buildings**

13 Bank Buildings was built in about 1895. The Home & Colonial Tea Stores opened its doors at 5pm on Friday January 31<sup>st</sup> 1896.

The Home & Colonial Trading Association was founded in 1885 by the tea buyer Julius C Drew (1856-1931) and his business partner, the grocer John Musker (1846-1926). The headquarters and main shop were in Edgware Road, London.

Within three years the company comprised four large ‘stores’ – Edgware Road, Islington, Birmingham and Leeds – selling a wide range of groceries and provisions, and nine smaller ‘tea shops’ which concentrated on groceries, especially tea. The ‘tea shops’ set the template for the future.



Figure 65. Home & Colonial Stores c1960

In order to finance the development of a national chain of 'stores' and 'tea shops', Home & Colonial Stores was incorporated in March 1888. Expansion was astonishingly rapid. By the end of 1889 there were 53 branches; new headquarters were taken on Paul Street, Finsbury, London. There were 237 branches (all leasehold) in 1895, 320 in 1897 and 500 in 1903.

The brand was one immortalised in a verse from John Betjeman's poem *Myfanwy*:

*'Smooth down the Avenue glitters the bicycle,  
Black-stockinged legs under navy blue serge,  
Home and Colonial, Star, International,  
Balancing bicycle leant on the verge.'*

Between the two world wars, Home & Colonial Stores expanded by purchasing three of its main competitors – the struggling Maypole Dairy Co. in 1924, the more prosperous Meadow Dairy Co. in 1929 and the thriving Lipton's in 1931. It was already associated with Lipton's through Allied Suppliers, a buying group formed in 1929.

In 1960 the holding company, Home and Colonial Stores Co. Ltd, changed its name to Allied Suppliers Ltd, but the subsidiary retail chains (including Lipton's and Maypole as well as Home & Colonial) retained their original names. Allied Suppliers was bought out by Sir James Goldsmith's Cavenham Foods in 1972.



Figure 66. Surrey Skateboards 1980s

In about 1975 the Californian craze of 'street-surfing' or skate-boarding gained a surge in popularity, following the introduction of the polyurethane wheel, and made its way to the UK.

The first and one of best-known shops servicing the demand for boards in the UK was Surrey Skateboards, founded by John W Clarke, which opened on 27<sup>th</sup> October 1977 and occupied 27 Chertsey Road until 2005<sup>26</sup>.

Since Surrey Skateboards vacated, the shop has been occupied by William Hill, bookmakers. The building is locally listed as being of Townscape Merit.

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<sup>26</sup> After the shop in Woking closed, the business (still trading under the same name) moved to Chivenor, Devon

Occupants of No. 27	
1896-1968	Home & Colonial Tea Stores
1972-73	Lipton's
1977-2005	Surrey Skateboards
2005-20	William Hill



Figure 67. William Hill 2020

### No. 29 - 14 Bank Buildings

Number 29 was, like its neighbours, built in about 1893. The first occupant was William Finch, a watchmaker and jeweller who was born in Uxbridge.

In about 1908, William Finch retired, aged just 46 – the business was evidently quite lucrative.

If you want a Good Watch or Clock, join W. FINCH'S Watch, Clock and Jewellery Club, now forming. Send for Rules and Descriptive Circular to W. FINCH, Watchmaker, 14, Bank Buildings, Woking.

Figure 68. William Finch advertisement May 1893



Figure 69. William Finch's shop 1905

The jewellery business and the shop premises were taken over by Thomas Edgar Russell, whose shop became something of a landmark in the town. Thomas was born in Lewes, Sussex, learnt his trade in Huntingdonshire and, in 1901, had his own business in Ipswich before moving to Woking.

Thomas died in 1938 and was succeeded by his son Ernest who ran the shop until about 1980, when he retired. He died in 1982. The business was carried on for a few years by Ernest's nephew. The building, which is locally listed as being of Townscape Merit, is still owned by the family.

Since the mid-1980s, the shop, with No. 31, has been home to a branch of KFC.

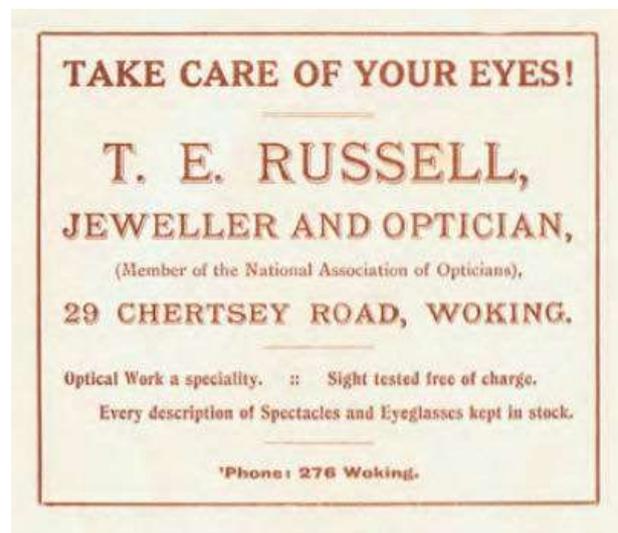


Figure 70. T E Russell advertisement 1926

Occupants of No. 29	
1893-1908	William Finch, jeweller, silversmith and watchmaker
1908-91	Thomas Edgar Russell, jeweller and watchmaker
1991-20	KFC



Figure 71. KFC 2020

### **No. 31 – 15 Bank Buildings/‘Victoria Chambers’**

15 Bank Buildings, otherwise Victoria Chambers, was built in about 1893. By 1894 it was occupied by Reuben Fincham, gentleman’s outfitters.

Reuben Fincham died in October 1915; the shop was run for another three years by his wife Emma before being taken over by Sydney Arthur Bailey, previously Reuben Fincham’s assistant.

Sydney Bailey ran his business at the same premises for almost 50 years. By 1925, he had a boys shop across the street (see page 163) and by 1933 had diversified into women’s tailoring too, with a shop in Chobham Road.



Figure 72. Reuben Fincham’s shop c.1910 (presumably Reuben Fincham on the right, possibly Sydney Bailey on the left)



Figure 73. Sydney Bailey advertisements from 1928, 1931 & 1934

Sydney Bailey died in 1979.

After a brief stint as a branch of Superdrug, the shop had around 20 years as a pet shop; first as Maybury Aqua-Pets and then as Pet Pals.



Figure 74. Aqua-Pets 1986, Pet Pals 1991

Occupants of No. 31	
1893-1918	Reuben Fincham, hosier & outfitter
1918-68	Sydney A Bailey, clothier & outfitter
1972-74	Superdrug
1979-87	(Maybury) Aqua-Pets
1988-96	Pet Pals
1997-	KFC

In 1997, KFC expanded from No. 29, and No. 31 has since been home to KFC. The building is locally listed as being of Townscape Merit.

### **No. 33 - 16 Bank Buildings**

16 Bank buildings was one of eight built *circa* 1892. The first occupant was the Post Office in one of its many moves before finding a 'permanent' home at No. 7 Chertsey Road. In 1893, the existing post office was demolished to allow for the building of the Woking Liberal and Radical Club and Institute - later replaced by the Woking Assembly Halls and the Plaza and Gaumont cinemas (see pages 183-184). The new post office building (4 Bank Buildings) was not yet ready and so, on 14th May 1893, the post office moved to a temporary home in 16 Bank Buildings.

16 Bank Buildings was owned by the International Tea Company Stores, who were there by 1898.



Figure 75. International Tea Company Stores 1898



Figure 76. 1914 advertisement

Founded in 1878, with the objective of selling tea direct to consumers rather than through wholesalers, International Tea Company Stores was a leading chain of grocers based in London. It was an original constituent of the FT

30 index of leading companies listed on the London Stock Exchange. The company was acquired by BAT Industries in 1972 and subsequently re-branded International Stores. In 1984, International Stores was sold to the Dee Corporation. This became the Gateway Corporation in 1988, and then Somerfield plc in 1994.

International Stores in Chertsey Road closed in about 1980. The building was then taken over by Le Salon, unisex hairdressers.

Le Salon was succeeded by the thali-thali Indian restaurant, sometime between 2000 and 2005.

The building is locally listed as being of Townscape Merit. Since 2020, it has been home to the Himalayan Spice restaurant (Figure 79).



Figure 77. Le Salon

**NEW MENU LAUNCH END OF JULY**

**thali:thali**  
for a superior indian dining experience

Bringing the opulence and quality of London establishments to Woking. Thali Thali offers some of India's most authentic cuisine, carefully chosen from the different regions of this colourful country.

Dining here is a tantalizing experience for all the senses. From the sophisticated decor to the quality of the food, you'll see that there are many factors which differentiate Thali Thali from the array of other Indian restaurants out there.



Come and sample the delights of Woking's finest Indian restaurant with live Indian music every Friday.

**Call for reservations on  
01483 755210**  
33 Chertsey Road, Woking, GU21 5AJ.

**Free Bottle of Wine**  
Present this advert to receive a complimentary bottle of house wine with your evening meal\*

\*Available on advance table bookings only. Minimum two people per table, one voucher per group of up to four, per visit. Can only be used with the a la carte menu. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Valid until end August 2005. Management reserve the right to withdraw this offer at any time.

Figure 78. thali-thali advertisement 2005

Occupants of No. 33	
1894-95	Post Office
1898-1972	International Tea Company Stores
1972-74	International Stores
1981-2000	Le Salon
2005-19	thali thali, restaurant
2020-	Himalayan Spice, restaurant



Figure 79. Himalayan Spice 2020

### **ADDISON ROAD TO DUKE STREET**

The buildings on the east side of Chertsey Road between Addison Road and Duke Street initially became known as No.s 17 to 29 Chertsey Road; they later became odd numbers 35-59, when the street was systematically numbered in 1910. The buildings may also have been named but no record of any names survives.

**No. 35**

With its octagonal, conical-roofed tower on the corner of the building, No. 35 is one of the most recognisable buildings in Woking. It was built in about 1893, by Edmund Hunt and the first occupant was George Chandler, a printer, born in Oxfordshire in about 1850, who had a stationery shop there.



Figure 80. George Chandler's shop 1898

By 1901, the building had been taken over by George Schooley Addison, who had his stationery and tobacconist business there for the next 50 years.

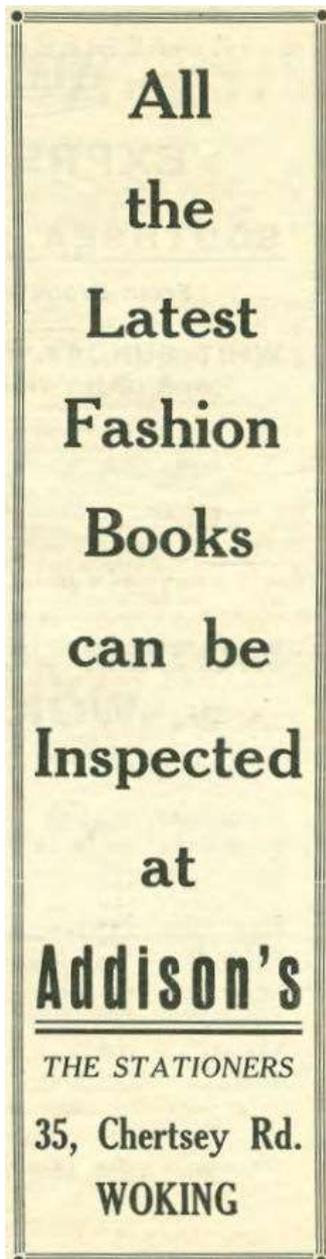


Figure 81. Advert 1933



Figure 82. Addison's shop 1913

By 1907 however, George Addison had moved out of Woking and was living in Croydon<sup>27</sup>. Addison Road (previously unnamed and known simply as 'New Road') was named after George's shop in 1933.

The shop has been home to a succession of newsagents and stationers. Addison was followed by Horace Marshall & Son - then Wymans, John Menzies, Chertsey News, Premier and Chertsey Newsagents.

### John Menzies

In 1833, John Menzies spotted a gap in the market. Leaving his London publishing job, 25-year-old John travelled north and opened a bookshop in Edinburgh, which became the only wholesale bookseller north of the border.

By the end of the 1840s, virtually every town in the UK was served by a station and in 1857, a new phenomenon appeared – the railway bookstall. In just a few years, John Menzies had secured the rights to bookstalls in almost every part of Scotland – including, in 1862, Waverley Station in the heart of Edinburgh.

By the time he handed John Menzies & Company over to his sons, the business had thriving wholesale premises in Edinburgh and Glasgow operating alongside the bookstalls.

John Menzies' sons John R and Charles Menzies continued with an era of extraordinary expansion, transforming a local business into a nationwide concern. Rapid expansion through acquisition saw John Menzies's presence spread throughout the UK, and in 1960 the limited company was incorporated. By 1965 John Menzies held 90 wholesale warehouses, 350 railway bookstalls and 161 shops.

In January 1998, it closed its principal branch in Edinburgh, although the head office continued to occupy the building. The whole retail operation was sold, in May 1998, to WHSmith High Street and WHSmith Europe Travel Retail, to enable Menzies to concentrate on its distribution business.



Figure 83. Chertsey News 2008



Figure 84. Premier 2012

<sup>27</sup> Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962, CC802/37/4



Figure 85. Chertsey Newsagents 2014



Figure 86. A & S Market 2017

Given the consistency of colour scheme and the similarity of two of the names, it is possible that Chertsey News, Premier & Chertsey Newsagents were one firm operating under several brand names.

Since 2018, the ground floor has been home to Martin & Co., estate agents. The building has had an extensive renovation carried out, with the upper floors converted to an AirBnB, called Addison House, the entrance being in Addison Road.

The building is locally listed as being of Townscape Merit.



Figure 87. Addison House in 2020

Occupants of No. 35	
1893-1900	George Chandler, stationer & newsagent
1901-48	George Schooley Addison, tobacconist, newsagent, haircutting salon, etc
1949-64	Horace Marshall & Son, tobacconist, newsagent, stationers
1965-67	Wymans, newsagent
1967-91	John Menzies, newsagent, stationers
1995-2008	Chertsey News
2012	Premier, newsagents
2014-16	Chertsey Newsagents
2016-2018	A & S Market, East European food
2018-20	Martin & Co., estate agents

## No. 37

No. 37 Chertsey Road was one of a group of three buildings (with 39 & 41) built in about 1893. The first known occupants of No. 37 were the Eclipse Stores, tea dealers who were present by 1897 and until 1900.

For the next 64 years, the shop was occupied by Pearks' Stores. Pearks Dairies Ltd. started modestly in the late Victorian era, concentrating on selling tea and butter. After 1918, expansion resulted in many new shops being opened.

From approximately 1905 to 1911, the first floor of No. 37 housed the National Telephone Co.'s local office and call room<sup>28</sup>. The sign featuring a bell can be seen in Figure 88.

By the dawn of the 1960s, 'self-service' was revolutionising food shopping. By 1967 Pearks were overshadowed; Pearks became the Maypole supermarket. Like Pearks, Maypole was also a long-established dairy/grocery chain. In 1973 there was another name change; Maypole became Liptons. Again, this was a famous grocery chain that had been established in the 1870s. Pearks, Maypole and Liptons were all part of the same retail group, Allied Suppliers.



Figure 88. Pearks' shop 1913

The building is locally listed as being of Townscape Merit. Since 2010 it has been home to Roosters fast food restaurant.

Occupants of No. 37	
1898-1900	Eclipse Stores Ltd, tea dealers
1901-67	Pearks' Stores Ltd/Pearks Dairies Ltd
1967-70	Maypole, grocers
1987-95	Pound Stretcher, toys
2007-08	Ramsey's Grill 2, Lebanese restaurant
2008-	Roosters

<sup>28</sup> *Street Directory 1905*



Figure 89. Roosters 2020

### No. 39

No. 39 Chertsey Road was built in about 1895. The first occupants were Wheeler & Mallard, tailors, who also had a store in Aldershot. In August 1913, they dissolved their partnership<sup>29</sup>; John William Wheeler had been running the shop in Aldershot and William Edginton Mallard carrying on the business in Woking – now the two shops were separate businesses.

When William Mallard died in 1922, the business was continued in Chertsey Road by his wife, Gertrude, assisted by their son, Eric Philip Mallard, and Arthur Street.

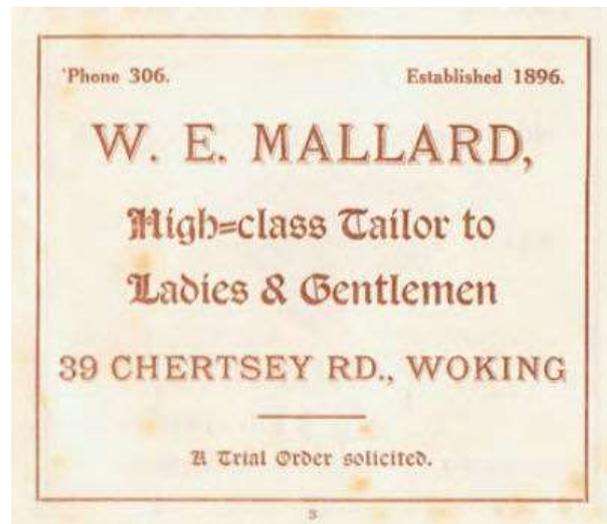


Figure 90. Mallard's advertisement 1926

<sup>29</sup> *London Gazette* 17 October 1913



Figure 91. Mallard's shop 1913

Mallard's shop can be seen in Figure 91 – the centre of the three shops with arched first floor windows.

In the late 1920s, The Woking Hairdressing Company, ladies and gents hairdressers, had their business on the first floor.

When Gertrude Mallard died in 1930, the business was closed down. Dolcis, the footwear retailer, moved into the shop, in 1931; Victor Edward Eveleigh was the manager.

The company began life on a street barrow in 1863 when John Upson started to sell his shoes on Woolwich Town Market. Business grew, and from the barrow he graduated to his first store in Woolwich called the Great Boot Provider. In 1920 the company went public and the name Dolcis started to appear over the shop doors. In 1956, it became part of the British Shoe Corporation.

Curtess was incorporated as a private company in 1940.



Figure 92. Mallard invoice  
A suit for £1.75!



Figure 93. Curtess

Since c1990, the building has seen a succession of restaurants take up occupancy, including Gulberg Mediterranean Grill, Bombay Night and Red Fort Indian restaurants.

The building is locally listed as being of Townscape Merit.

Occupants of No. 39	
1896-1931	Wheeler & Mallard, tailors & outfitters
1934-72	Dolcis (Upsons Ltd.), boots, etc/footwear retailers
1985-86	Curtess, footwear
1995-97	Gulberg, Mediterranean & Persian grill
1998-2017	Bombay Night, restaurant
2017-20	Red Fort, restaurant



Figure 94. Red Fort 2020

## No. 41

No. 41 Chertsey Road was built in about 1895; until about 1910 it was known as 21 Chertsey Road. The first occupant was Robert Roger Wasley, a butcher.

In 1900, the upper floor of no. 41 housed the National Telephone Co.'s local office and call room<sup>30</sup>.

<sup>30</sup> *Street Directory* 1900

Robert Wasley was born in Aldershot in 1871. He did his apprenticeship in London (in the 1891 census he is lodging in Kensington) and moved to Woking in about 1895. In 1907 he took over the fishmonger and poultry business in No. 43 (then 22) Chertsey Road, from his brother George. At the same time, he opened a second fishmongers shop at No. 18.

Robert Wasley seems to have retired in about 1935 and he died in 1937. The business continued under his name however, until the mid to late 1960s. Most likely the business passed to Robert's wife, Evelyn, who probably had a manager running it for her. Evelyn died in 1959.



Figure 95. Robert Wasley's butcher shop 1905

In about 1965, No. 41 was taken over by the Singer Sewing Machines shop, which occupied the premises for more than 50 years.

Singer Sewing Machines closed up in 2015 and the shop remained empty for over four years. It was taken up in 2020 by Legend Barber.

Occupants of No. 41	
1899-1964	Robert Wasley Ltd, family butchers
1968-2015	Singer Sewing Machines
2015-19	<i>Vacant</i>
2020-	Legend Barber

The building is locally listed as being of Townscape Merit.



Figure 96. Legend Barber 2020

### **No. 43**

No. 43 Chertsey Road was built in about 1895; until about 1910 it was known as 22 Chertsey Road. The first occupant was George Wasley, a fishmonger and poulterer and elder brother of Robert Wasley who ran the butcher's shop at No. 41. George was born and still lived in Aldershot. His brother, Robert, took over the shop in Chertsey Road, in 1907, and George set up business in Aldershot.



Figure 97. George Wasley's fish & poultry shop 1905

Robert expanded his butchery business into No. 43 and opened a new fishmonger's shop at No. 18. Although, Robert Wasley died in 1937, the business continued under his name until the mid-to-late 1960s.



Figure 98. Robert Wasley's shop c1950

No. 43 was taken over by Matthews, in about 1965. The shop ceased to be a butchers when Matthews closed in 1987.

From 1987 to 1990, the shop housed Fatso's Pasta Joint.

Since the 1990s, No. 43 has been home (with No.s 45 and 47) to a series of bars:

Junction 45, Pitchers, Shotz, The rsvp, The Ogilvy and, currently, The Junction Tap.

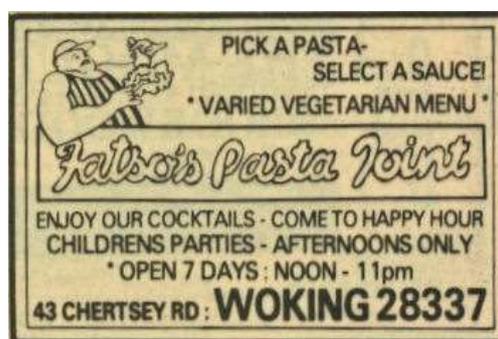


Figure 99. Fatso's advertisement



Figure 100. Pitchers



Figure 101. The rsvp



Figure 102. The Ogilvy

Occupants of No. 43	
1899-1906	George Wasley, fishmonger & poulterer
1907-64	Robert Wasley Ltd, pork butcher
1968-87	Matthews, butchers
1987-90	Fatso's Pasta Joint
1991-93	Dukes Wine & Dine
1995-96	Junction 45
1998-2001	Pitchers Sports Bar
2002-03	Shotz
2005-12	The rsvp
2013-19	The Ogilvy
2019-20	The Junction Tap



Figure 103. The Junction Tap - No.s 43-47, 2020

## No. 45

No.s 45-49 Chertsey Road were built, in about 1898, by Edmund George Hunt; he then rented them out.

In about 1898, Joseph Whittome opened a draper's shop in No. 45 (then No. 22). In about 1905 he sold up and the premises were taken over by W A Elton, one of Woking's longest established businesses.

William Arthur Elton was born in Malton, Yorkshire in 1874.

In 1901, William was employed as a bookseller's assistant in Brighton, Sussex. Later advertisements give the establishment of his business as 1901.

William seems to have moved to Woking in 1903<sup>31</sup> and was originally in Commercial Road. He moved his business into 22 Chertsey Road in 1905<sup>32</sup>.



Figure 104. Elton's shop in Chertsey Road c1908  
Note reference to 'West End Library, Brighton'

William later opened a shop in Rosemount Parade, West Byfleet, and two shops in Chobham Road, Woking, one of which sold office equipment.

Since the late 1980s, No. 43 has been home (with No.s 45 and 47) to a series of bars: Legends, Dukes, Junction 45, Pitchers, Shotz, The rsvp, The Ogilvy and, currently, The Junction Tap.

<sup>31</sup> He first appears in the Electoral Register list for 1904

<sup>32</sup> In 1908, the shop in Chertsey Road was 'a depot for Elton's Library' (Figure 104)

Occupants of No. 45	
1899-1905	Ernest Whittome, draper & milliner
1905-81	William Arthur Elton , bookseller, stationer, printer, librarian
1983-89	Legends, wine bar
1991-93	Dukes Wine & Dine
1995-96	Junction 45
1998-2001	Pitchers Sport Bar
2002-03	Shotz
2005-12	The rsvp
2013-19	The Ogilvy
2019-20	The Junction Tap

## No. 47

No.s 45-49 Chertsey Road were built, in about 1898, by Edmund George Hunt; he then rented them out.

Ernest Willmott, printer and stationer, was the first occupant of No. 47 (then No. 23). Having married in 1896, he moved to Woking with his wife, Catherine, and young daughter in 1899.

Ernest was in business with his elder brother, Sidney.

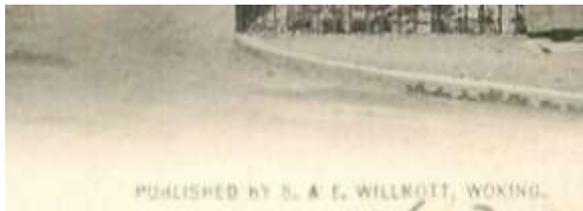


Figure 105. Part of postcard published by Willmott brothers



Figure 106. Ernest Willmott 1868-1901

Ernest and Catherine's next child, a son, was born months after they moved to Woking. Tragically, Ernest died in 1901, when Catherine was pregnant with their third child; he was 33.

In 1904, the London & County Banking Company Ltd opened a Woking branch in No. 47. They occupied the building until 1909, when they were taken over by the Westminster Bank Ltd, who closed the branch, keeping their branch at the top of the High Street.

Arthur Lloyd Davies, a chemist, previously assistant to John Littleboy (who had his business in the High Street), moved into the premises in 1910. In 1930, he moved his business to No. 2 the High Street into the shop which up to then had been occupied by John Littleboy and son.

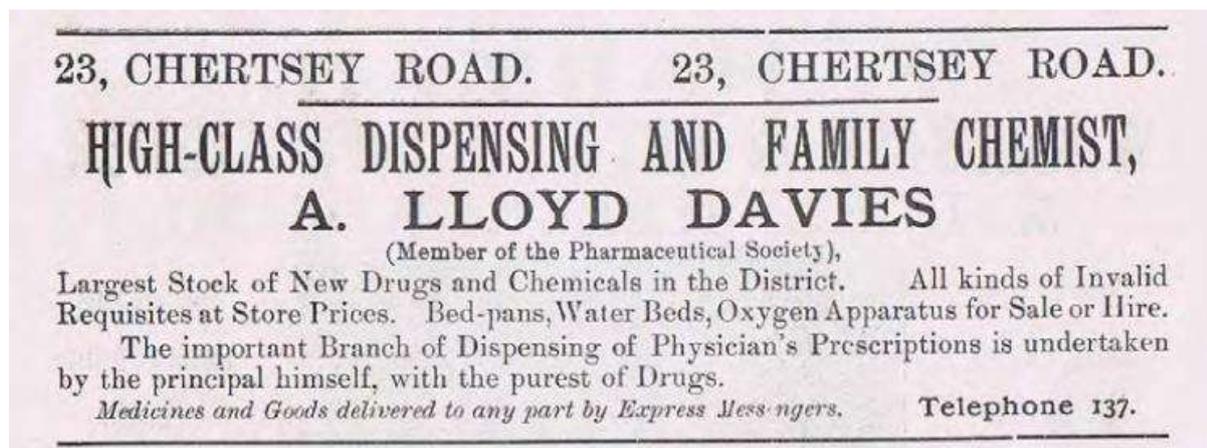


Figure 107. 1911 advertisement for Arthur Lloyd Davies

Horstmanns, the opticians, were the next occupants, but only for a few years.

From 1937 until 1957, the shop was vacant.

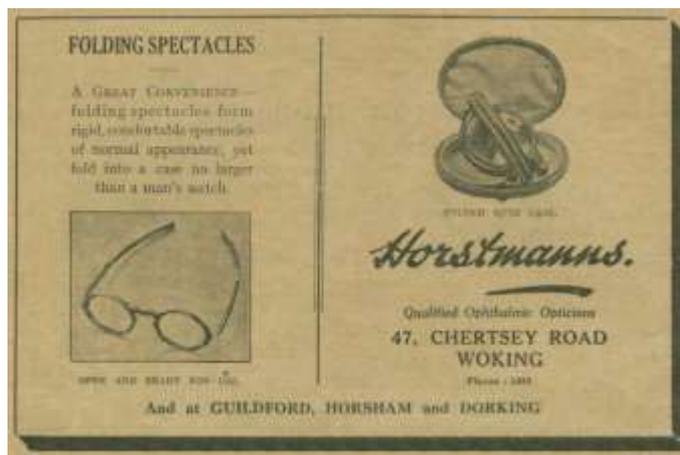


Figure 108. Horstmanns 1933 advertisement

By 1964, Dorothy Perkins had opened a Woking branch in No. 47. The firm had its roots in a company called H. P. Newman & Co. Ltd, seemingly a Luton straw hat manufacturer. The Dorothy Perkins<sup>33</sup> trading name was adopted for the first time in the middle of the Great War, in 1916.

Advertisements of the 1920s described Dorothy Perkins as ‘specialists in millinery, lingerie, corsets, hosiery and woven underwear’.

When Dorothy Perkins floated in 1958 it had 130 shops, of which just 23 were held freehold. The shops sold ladies’ underwear, hosiery, corsetry, cotton dresses, blouses, cardigans, jumpers, dressing gowns and swimwear; some branches also sold wool and babywear.

<sup>33</sup> Dorothy Perkins was the name of a popular rambling rose, thought vulgar by some; in 1920, a correspondent for The Times declared: ‘The nurseryman who produced Dorothy, let us hope by mistake, ought to have burnt the plant as soon as it began to flower . . . she makes the most beautiful garden look like the scenery in a musical comedy’. Nevertheless, this cheerful bright pink rose adorned the highly distinctive frontages of Dorothy Perkins shops.

From about 1979 until about 1982, the name Panache appeared above the door of No. 47. This coincided with the acquisition of Dorothy Perkins by Burtons Group. In 1982 it reverted to Dorothy Perkins.

Dorothy Perkins closed its doors in 1986. It was replaced by an independent ladies' fashion shop, Uniquity Patience.



Figure 109. Panache

Since the 1990s No. 43 has been home (with No.s 45 and 47) to a series of bars: Junction 45, Pitchers, Shotz, The rsvp, The Ogilvy and, currently, The Junction Tap.

Occupants of No. 47	
1899-1903	Ernest Willmott, printers & stationers
1904-09	London & County Banking Company Ltd
1910-30	Arthur Lloyd Davies, pharmaceutical chemist
1931-34	Horstmanns, opticians
1937-57	<i>vacant</i>
1964-86	Dorothy Perkins, ladies wear
1987-91	Uniquity Patience
1995-96	Junction 45
1998-2001	Pitchers Sports Bar
2002-03	Shotz
2005-12	The rsvp
2013-19	The Ogilvy
2019-20	The Junction Tap

## No. 49

No.s 45-49 Chertsey Road were built, in about 1898, by Edmund George Hunt; he then rented them out.

The first occupant of No. 24 (later No. 49) Chertsey Road was William John Boullin, who opened a grocery store in about 1898.

In 1911, William Boullin retired and took up a smallholding in Chobham. He sold the shop to Thomas Carlile Hodder, who ran the business for the next 27 years. Thomas Hodder also opened grocery shops in Board School Road, Goldsworth Road and Guildford Road (Figure 111).

Thomas Hodder retired to Surbiton, in about 1938. No. 49 then stood vacant for the whole of the second world war.



Figure 110. Boullin advertisement 1908

Thomas's son, Cyril, was killed on a bombing raid in 1943, having attained the rank of Wing Commander and having been awarded the A.F.C.<sup>34</sup>

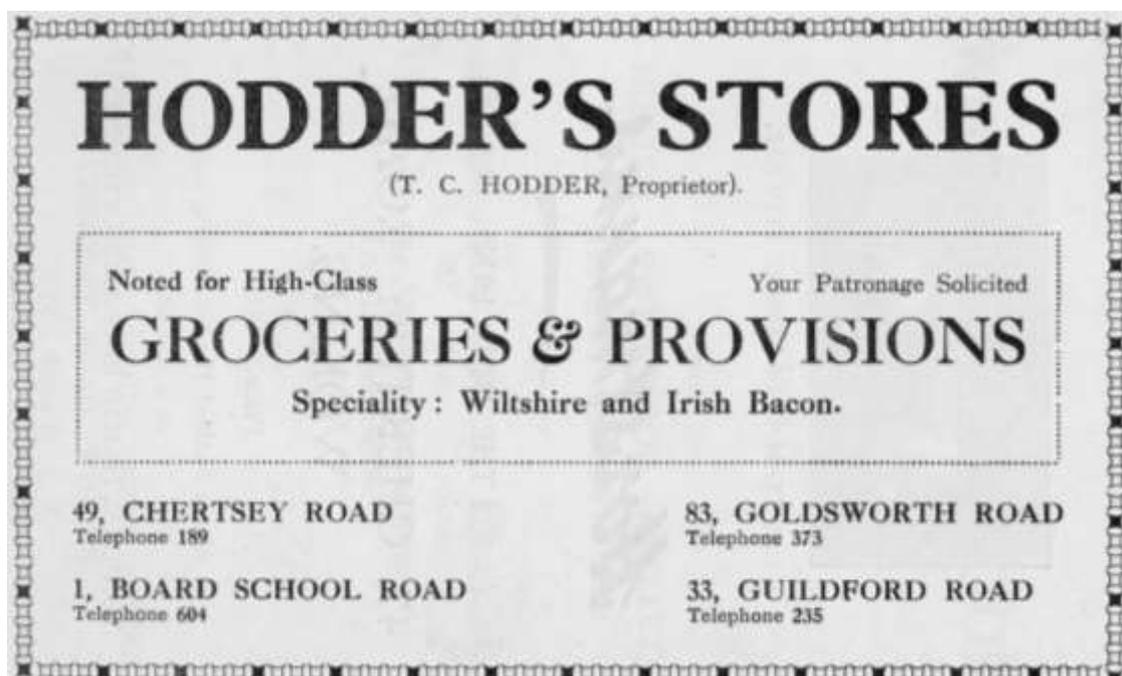


Figure 111. Hodder advertisement 1934

In 1946, the shop was taken over by Lilley & Skinner, footwear retailers, who remained until the mid-1970s.

<sup>34</sup> UK, *Commonwealth War Graves, 1914-1921 and 1939-1947*



Figure 112. Lilley & Skinner c 1960



Figure 113. Ralph fabrics

Since at least as early as 1993, the building has been home to the Jaipur, Indian restaurant.

Occupants of No. 49	
1898-1911	William John Boullin & Son, grocers & provision merchants
1911-37	T C Hodder Stores (Thomas Carlile Hodder), grocer & provision merchant
1938-45	<i>vacant</i>
1946-72	Lilley & Skinner
1978-86	Ralph, fabrics
1993-	Jaipur, restaurant



Figure 114. Jaipur 2020

## The Hollies

Edmund George Hunt was born in Kington Magna, Dorset in 1840, the son of a farmer. Following his marriage in 1862, he moved to Woking.

In 1869, Edmund had a grocer's shop at No. 2 Woking High Street, next to the Post Office (rented from William Wells). In about 1872, he moved to Chertsey Road (see page 83).

In about 1882, Edmund built a large house called 'The Hollies', on a half-acre plot, in Chertsey Road. The location of the house is shown in Figure 115; the entrance can just be seen in Figure 116. It is set back, behind the row of four-storey buildings on the right-hand side of the road, where the holly trees are (later No.s 51-53).

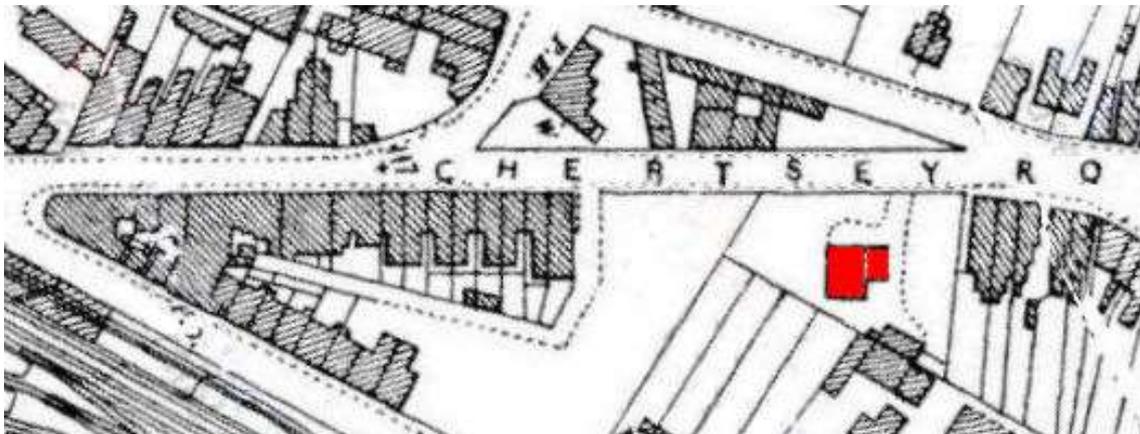


Figure 115. Location of The Hollies



Figure 116. Entrance to The Hollies

Between 1885 and 1890, Edmund appears to have rented the house out. In 1885/6 The Hollies was occupied by Colonel (later Major General) Percy Smith RE who rented the house for a period before moving to Horsell.<sup>35</sup> In 1891 Edmund Hunt moved back into the Hollies himself, with his family; they lived there for the next twelve years.

The Hollies was pulled down in 1903.<sup>36</sup> It was replaced by two shops - No.s 51 and 53. Edmund and his family moved from Chertsey Road to a house in Heathside which he also named 'The Hollies'.

Occupants of The Hollies	
1882	Edmund George Hunt
1885-86	Colonel Percy Guillemard Llewellyn Smith RE
1888	George James
1889	E Marshall
1891-1903	Edmund George Hunt

## No. 51

No.s 51 and 53 were built in about 1903, following the demolition of The Hollies. No. 51 was taken over by Harrison Brothers, tailors and hosiers, who moved from their shop in Commercial Road. The two brothers were Albert Edward and Alfred Ernest. They also had another shop in Guildford. In February 1906 the partnership between the brothers was dissolved, with Albert taking the Guildford branch and Alfred the Woking branch.<sup>37</sup> Alfred occupied the building until 1909.

Henry Bennett Leapman, cycle agent, followed the Harrison brothers, occupying the building up to the outbreak of World War I. By 1918, Henry had retired to Wrecclesham, Surrey.

From 1918 until 1921, Miss Lottie Evangeline Knight<sup>38</sup> operated her dressmaking business out of the premises.



Figure 117. Henry B Leapman 1864-1940

From 1920 until 1927, the shop was occupied by the Arcadia Penny Bazaar (aka the Economical Bazaar and the Penny Arcade). The proprietors were Hunters The Teamen Ltd

<sup>35</sup> SHC 6198/13/2 *Parish of Woking: Valuation, Rating and other Parish Records (1843-1936) Valuation list 1885*; SHC QS6/7A/124 *Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962*

<sup>36</sup> SHC 6198/13/29 *Parish of Woking: Valuation, Rating and other Parish Records (1843-1936): Supplemental valuation list 1903*

<sup>37</sup> *London Gazette* 6 March 1906

<sup>38</sup> Not a relation of Sparkes Cornelius Knight

After the Penny Arcade, John Bright (Outfitters) Ltd occupied the shop, from about 1929 until it was bombed by the Luftwaffe in 1941 - one of the few Woking buildings to be bombed during World War 2. The site then stood empty until it was taken over by Woolworth in 1957.



Figure 118. Bright's shop



Figure 119. Window display c1930



Figure 120. Empty site, previously Bright's shop

The empty site where Bright's shop stood can be seen in Figure 120 (beyond A1 Boot Company).

Following the closure of the A1 Boot Company in No. 53, Woolworth took the opportunity to expand into No.s 53 and 51.

Since 1995, the building has been part of the Wetherspoons public house, *The Herbert George Wells*.

Occupants of No. 51	
1904-09	Harrison Brothers, tailors & hosiers
1910-14	Henry Bennett Leapman
1918-21	Miss Lottie Evangeline Knight, dress-maker
1920-27	Arcadia Penny Bazaar, proprietors Hunters The Teamen Ltd
1931-41	John Bright (Outfitters) Ltd, tailors
1941-57	<i>vacant</i> (bombed out)
1957-94	F W Woolworth
1995-	Wetherspoons (The Herbert George Wells) / Anytime Fitness (1 <sup>st</sup> )

**No. 53**

No.s 51 and 53 were built in about 1903, following the demolition of The Hollies. In 1905, No. 53 was taken over by Edward Cecil Duplock, when he established his A1 Boot Company.



Figure 121. A1 Boot Company

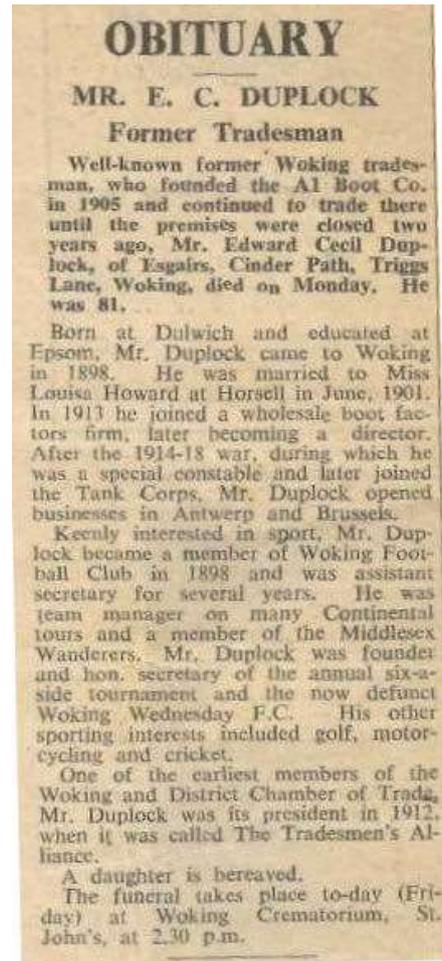


Figure 122. Edward Cecil Duplock obituary, 1959

The A1 Boot Company store remained in the same premises for over fifty years.

In 1910, 53a (presumably the first floor) was home to the Surrey Bookshop.

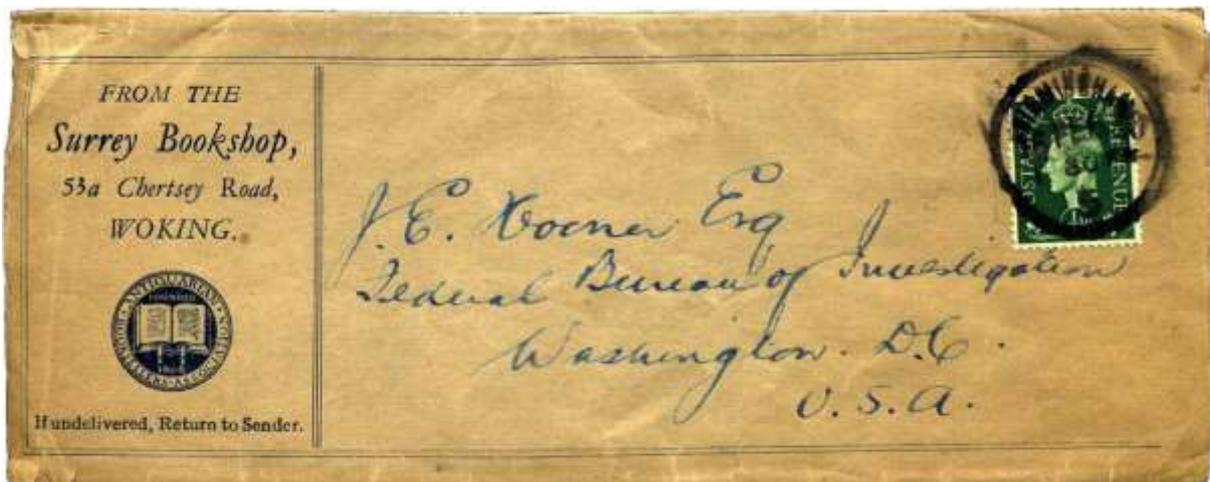


Figure 123. 1910 cover from Surrey Bookshop (we can only speculate as to what the FBI was buying from a Woking bookshop, and why)

The business was closed following Edward Duplock's decease and Woolworth's took the opportunity to expand into No. 53 (and No. 51, formerly Bright's, which had been bombed during the war).

Since 1995, the building has been part of the Wetherspoons public house, *The Herbert George Wells*.

Occupants of No. 53	
1905-57	A1 Boot Stores (Edward Cecil Duplock)
1957-94	F W Woolworth
1995-	Wetherspoons (The Herbert George Wells)



Figure 124. The Herbert George Wells (Wetherspoons) 2020

### **No.s 55-59**

What was to become No.s 55-59 Chertsey Road was built by Edmund Hunt in 1904. The three-bay building, on the corner of Chertsey Road and Duke Street, was built for Lea's Stores Co., who operated a hardware shop, which also did motor and cycle repairs.

Lea's Stores, only occupied the building for a couple of years. In 1906 the shop closed and the building was divided into three units.

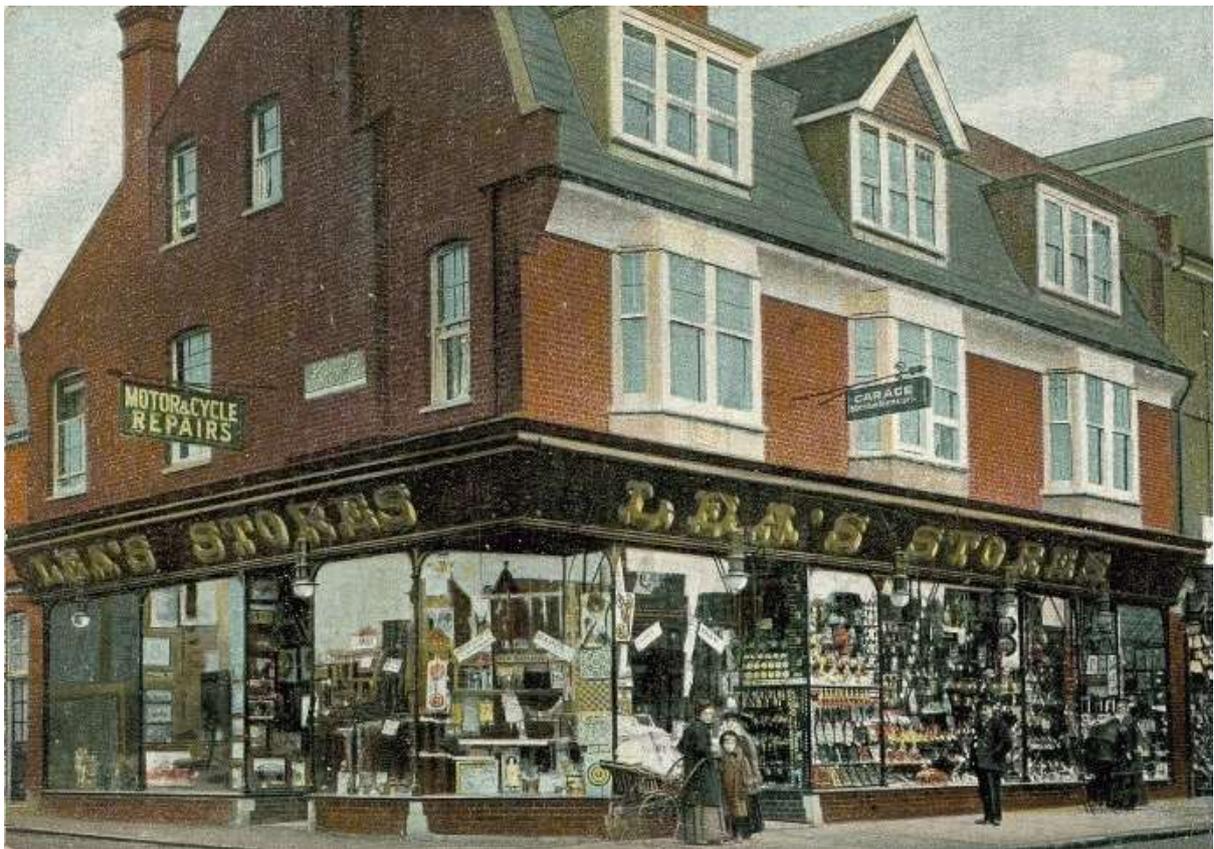


Figure 125. Lea's Stores c.1905

## No. 55

In 1906, Eastman & Son, dyers, moved into No. 55, one third of what had been Lea's Stores (see above). They stayed until about 1920, when Colman's expanded from next door (57-59).

Colman's were house furnishers and china and glassware merchants (see page 72).



Figure 126. Colman advertisement 1924

In 1927 Colman's closed their store and F W Woolworth moved in to No.s 55 and 57.



Figure 127. Woolworth 1930s

F W Woolworth was arguably the retail phenomenon of the twentieth century; it was the first brand to go global, building more than 5,000 nearly identical stores across the globe.

Woolworth was a mass market retailer, selling factory-made goods at rock bottom prices. It established many of the standards which are still used in retail today - supplier partnerships, loss-leading, supply chain efficiencies and strict consistent branding all had their origins at Woolworths.

In 1959, following Edward Duplock's decease (see page 69), Woolworth's took the opportunity to expand into No. 53 and No. 51 (formerly Bright's, which had been bombed during the war). Three years later, the store was rebuilt from the ground up.

From the heights of the 1950s, Woolworth's fortunes declined. When the UK decimalised its currency, Woolworth's could not afford to convert over 10,000 cash registers, instead converting stores to self-service. Things didn't get better and, in 2008, the UK 800-strong chain went from normal trading to complete oblivion in 41 days. The writing had been on the wall for some time and the Woking store had closed in 1994.

Since 1995, the building has been part of the Wetherspoons public house, *The Herbert George Wells*.

Occupants of No. 55	
1907-06	Lea's hardware and cycle stores
1907-18	Eastman & Son , dyers and cleaners
1921-27	R & S Colman, house furnishers, china & glass merchants
1927-94	F W Woolworth
1995-	Wetherspoons (The Herbert George Wells)

## No. 57

Built in 1904, No 57 was originally part of Lea's Stores (see page 70). In 1907 the shop was vacant. Richard Allen Colman and his brother Sidney Wilfred Colman, house furnishers and china & glassware merchants then moved in to both No.s 57 and 59. They traded as R & S Colman.

In about 1920, Colman's expanded into No. 55. At about the same time they also opened another store at 9 & 10 High Street.

In 1927 Colman's closed their store and F W Woolworth moved in to No.s 55 and 57 (see page 71).



Figure 128. Colman's window display

Since 1995, the building has been part of the Wetherspoons public house, *The Herbert George Wells*.

Occupants of No. 57	
1904-06	Lea's hardware and cycle stores
1908-	<i>vacant</i>
1911-27	R & S Colman, house furnishers, china & glass merchants
1927-94	F W Woolworth
1995-	Wetherspoons (The Herbert George Wells)

## No. 59

Built in 1904, No 59 was originally part of Lea's Stores (see page 70). In 1908 the shop was vacant. R & S Colman, house furnishers then moved in (see page 72).

No. 59 then stood vacant again for several years at the end of the 1920s.

In about 1930, the shop was taken over by Mac's, gents and boys outfitters; the proprietor was Frederick O McDonnell. They didn't stay long either, being replaced by Griffiths and then Teddy Clarke – both also outfitters, both short-lived.

A Lewis & Co., tobacconists, moved in, in the 1940s; W J Enticknap Ltd, commission agents took over the first floor. In 1959, they suffered having the Woolworth's store rebuilt around them.



Figure 129. Mac's c.1931

Lewis departed in the mid-1970s and were replaced by J H Barrenger's leather and travel goods shop, who had been forced out of their Commercial Road premises, in preparation for the Fine Fare superstore development.

Since 1995, the building has been part of the Wetherspoons public house, *The Herbert George Wells*.



Figure 130. Lewis's tobacco shop 1959  
(Woolworth's being rebuilt around it)



Figure 131. Barrenger's

Occupants of No. 59	
1904-06	Lea's hardware and cycle stores
1908-	<i>vacant</i>
1911-27	R & S Colman, house furnishers, china & glass merchants
1927-29	<i>vacant</i>
1931	Mac's outfitters (Frederick Oswald McDonnell)
1934	Griffiths Brothers, outfitters
1937-39	Teddy Clarke, outfitter
1945-72	Lewis & Co. , tobacconists
1975-91	J H Barrenger Ltd, leather goods
1995-	Wetherspoons (The Herbert George Wells)

## No.s 61-67

No.s 61-67 Chertsey Road sat between Duke Street and Walton Road, before they were demolished in the 1980s for the Dukes Court development.

Prior to the building of London House (see below) in about 1905, there were five shops listed in this space<sup>39</sup>.

In about 1875, four cottages were built here as two pairs of semi-detached. They were purchased by Edmund George Hunt.<sup>40</sup> By 1885, a third cottage had been built attached to the two that already stood where London House would later be built.

<sup>39</sup> Urban District Council of Woking General Rate Book 1901, SHC 6198/9/74

<sup>40</sup> Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962

In 1905 these three shops were occupied by Robertson Brothers, furniture removers and stores; William Benjamin Merrifield, tailor and Jeremiah James Hunt, provision dealer. These buildings can just be seen on the left in Figure 132.



Figure 132. Before London House

Alexander Gordon Robertson and Gordon Caddel Robertson were sons of solicitor William Henry Raymond Robertson, who had moved to Woking in about 1880.

Alexander and Gordon established their furniture and auctioneering business in Chertsey Road, between the junctions with Duke Street and Walton Road, in the late 1890s. In 1905/6 they moved into Maybury Road.

William Merrifield moved to Connaught Road, Brookwood in 1906.

Jeremiah Hunt was succeeded, in 1901, by Frank Bayliss who had a fishmonger's. In the 1911 census, Frank Bayliss described himself as a retired fruiterer (at age 37).

Earlier occupants of London House site			
1875-79	Edmund G Hunt		
1880-81		Stephen Fowler	
1882		Charles Wheatley	
1883-84			
1885		Joseph Henry Jose	George Crewe
1886-87			
1888		Nathaniel Wheeler	Miss Bateman
1889			Bena Warren
1890			
1891-94	Robertson Brothers	William B Merrifield, tailor	James G Luker
1894-98			Jeremiah James Hunt, grocer
1898-1900			Frank Bayliss, fishmonger
1901-05			

## No.s 61 & 63 – ‘London House’

London House was built on the north corner of Chertsey Road and Duke Street in 1905-6. The architect was W H Duffield and the builders were the Woking firm of William J Drowley & Co. (see page 101)<sup>41</sup>. The building replaced those of Robertson Bro<sup>s</sup>, William Merrifield & Frank Bayliss, previously owned by Edmund Hunt.



Figure 135. London House c.1907

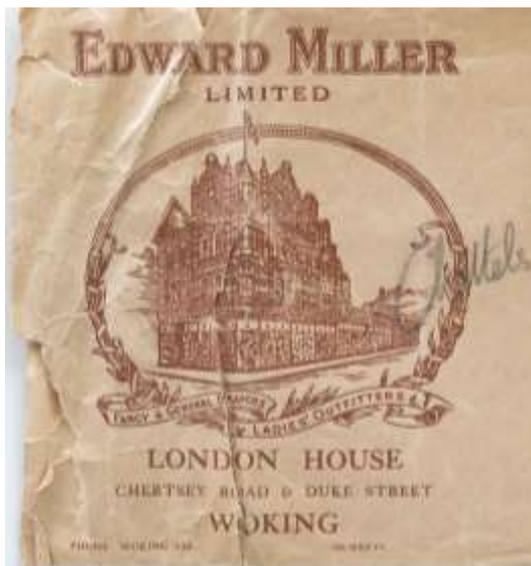


Figure 133. Edward Miller advertising

Edward Miller moved in, in about May 1906<sup>42</sup>, running a fancy drapery and millinery business. The owner of the building was William Henry Last, provision merchant.<sup>43</sup>



Figure 134. 1953 Sidro advertisement

From 1950 until 1957, London House was occupied by Sidro ladies’

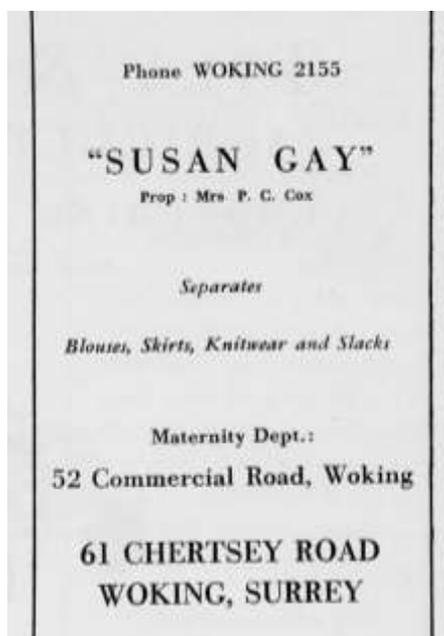


Figure 136. 1960 Susan Gay advert

<sup>41</sup> *Woking as a Residential District*, Drowley & Co., 1907

<sup>42</sup> This is when advertisements appeared for shop and domestic staff

<sup>43</sup> SHC 6198/13/29 *Parish of Woking: Supplemental valuation list 1906*

wear. In 1957, Susan Gay took over No. 61 and Norman's No. 63.

Susan Gay closed in about 1965, and was followed, in 1967, by Rediffusion Ltd, television sales and rentals, and then by Eastman dry cleaners. In about 1968, Norman's was replaced by the short-lived Theika, ladies wear.

Occupants of London House (No.s 61 & 63)		
1906-37	Edward Miller, fancy draper and milliner	
1947-49	Marshalls Ltd, tailors & outfitters	
1951-57	Sidro, ladies' fashions, tailors & outfitters	
1957-64	Susan Gay, ladies wear	Norman's, outfitters
1965-66		
1967	Rediffusion Ltd	Theika, ladies wear
1968-72		
1973-74		
c1975	Eastman, dry cleaners	

The building was demolished in the early 1980s to allow for the Dukes Court development, construction of which began in January 1983.



Figure 137. Dukes Court 2020

## No. 65

No. 65 was one of a pair of semi-detached cottages built in about 1872.

Timothy Lovett had a butcher's shop in Chertsey Road as early as 1887; he also had a shop in St John's.<sup>44</sup> In 1900, he apparently gave up butchery to become steward of the Woking Liberal Club.

Lovett's shop was taken over by Ernest George Marshall, who traded there for over 25 years.

In 1926 the business was taken over by Walter Webb of Esher, another butcher, who traded there for over 20 years.



Figure 138. E G Marshall 1872-1950

ADVERTISEMENTS. sl

**WHERE TO SHOP AT WOKING.**  
Telephone No. 13.  
*Home-killed Meat of the Finest Quality.*

**E. G. Marshall,**  
FAMILY BUTCHER  
CHERTSEY ROAD, WOKING.



*All Orders receive Strict Personal Attention.*

**Deliveries Daily. Orders by Post or Telephone promptly despatched.**

CORNED BEEF.	SWEETBREADS.
PICKLED TONGUES.	ETC.

ALWAYS IN STOCK.

*Cold Storage on the latest and most improved system, thus insuring tender meat in the hottest weather.*

Price List on application. A Trial respectfully Solicited.

Figure 139. Marshall's advertisement



Figure 140. Marshall's



Figure 141. Marshall's

From 1949, until shortly before its demolition, the shop was occupied by Achille Serre Ltd, dyers and cleaners.

<sup>44</sup> *Althorp's Almanac and Directory for Woking & District for 1888*

The building was demolished in the early 1980s to allow for the Dukes Court development.

Occupants of No. 65	
1875-81	Levi Belton, blacksmith
1882	Stephen Hinxman
1887-1900	Timothy Lovett, butcher
1901-26	Ernest George Marshall, butcher
1927-48	Walter Webb, butcher
1949-68	Achille Serre Ltd, dyers and cleaners (Kathleen A Mephram)

## No. 67

The first known occupant of No. 67 was Charles Stuart Midwinter and family. Charles was a watchmaker and jeweller, who had arrived in Woking in about 1877 with his wife and two young children. He lived in and traded from No. 67 until 1881, when he moved in No. 69.

After Charles Midwinter's departure there were at least four short-term tenants. One of these, in 1888, was Thomas Eldridge.

Thomas Eldridge was born in Sussex in 1864. In 1881 he was living with his parents in Weybridge. He moved to Woking, probably following his marriage in 1887. In the censuses of 1881 and 1901, Thomas describes himself as 'painter'. In 1888, he advertises a wide range of skills (**Error! Reference source not found.**).

ALTHORP'S WOKING ILLUSTRATED ALMANACK & DIRECTORY.

---


**T. ELDRIDGE,**


**CHERTSEY + ROAD, + WOKING,**  
**PLUMBER, PAINTER,**  
**Glazier, & General House Decorator.**

---

**SIGN, GLASS, & FACIA WRITER,**  
AND  
**GILDER TO THE TRADE.**

---

**TIN, ZINC, COPPER, AND IRON WORKER.**  
**GAS & HOT WATER APPARATUS FITTER.**

---

**LOCKSMITH + AND + BELLHANGER.**

---

Electric Bells, Fire Alarms, & Thief Detectors fitted and repaired  
 ✧ ESTIMATES GIVEN FOR EVERY DESCRIPTION OF WORK. ✧  
**WINDOW + AND + PICTURE + GLASS + CUT + TO + ANY + SIZE.**

---

Figure 142. Thomas Eldridge advertisement 1888

Joseph Parslow grew up in Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, where his father had a furniture business. After marrying in 1887, Joseph emigrated to Ontario, Canada (his first daughter was born there in December 1890).

In April 1896, Joseph and his family returned to England<sup>45</sup> and by 1899 he had started a new and second-hand furniture business in 67 Chertsey Road.



Figure 143. Parslow advertisement 1908

Joseph's wife, Eliza, died in 1924 and Joseph retired a couple of years later.

In 1927 the building was taken over by Arthur Ernest Musson, a ladies' hairdresser, who traded as *Maison Musson*. Arthur died in 1973 and his wife, Olive, in 1976.

The building was demolished in the 1980s to allow for the Dukes Court development.

Occupants of No. 67	
1877-81	Charles Midwinter
1882	James Wigg
1885	David Head
1888	Thomas Eldridge

<sup>45</sup> The National Archives: UK and Ireland, Incoming Passenger Lists, 1878-1960; Class: BT26; Piece: 96

1891	James Wigg
1899-1926	Joseph Parslow, furniture dealer
1927-68	Maison Musson, ladies' hairdresser (Arthur Ernest Musson)

## 1-12 CHERTSEY ROAD

The row of buildings on the eastern side of Chertsey Road (on the right looking from the station) between the junctions with Walton Road and Church Street were built in the 1880s. More so than the Station Estate, the Quadrant and the Triangle, development along this stretch was piecemeal. The buildings, from about 1900 until 1910, were numbered as 1-12 Chertsey Road.

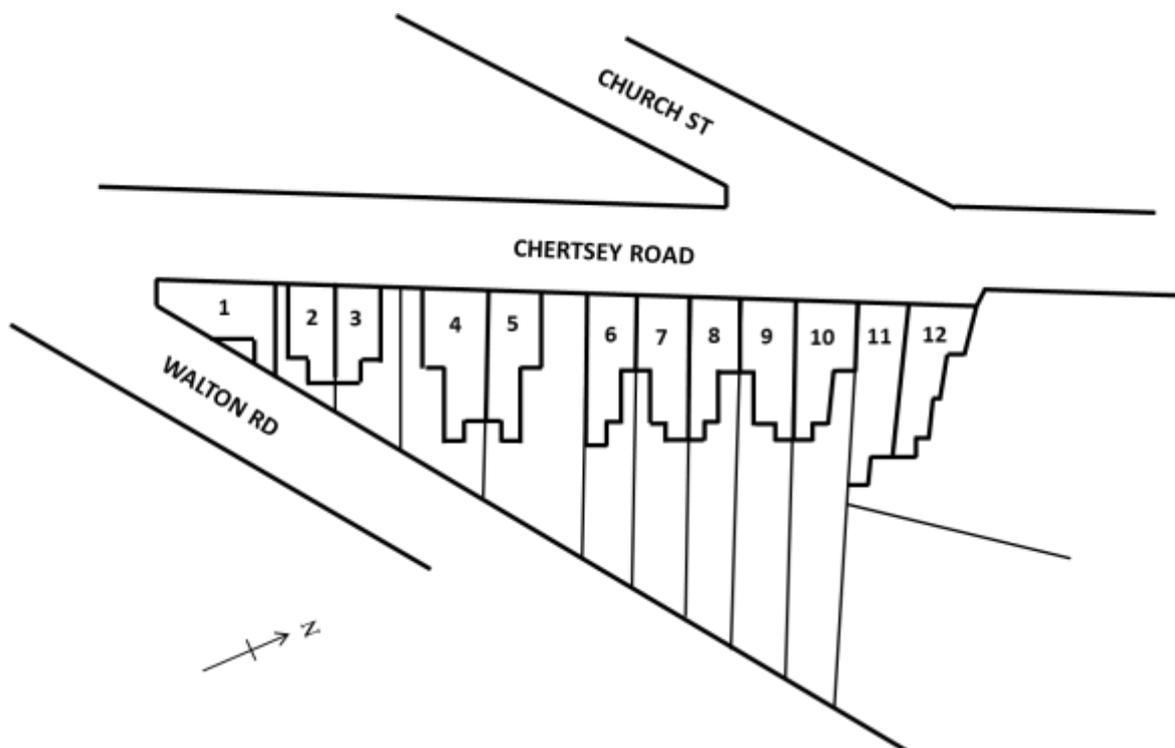


Figure 144. Plan of 1-12 Chertsey Road

### No. 69 – No. 1

No. 69 was built in the mid-1870s; for the first 30 or so years it was known as no. 1 Chertsey Road. In 1885 it was described as a 'detached shop'<sup>46</sup>.

The first known occupants were Charles Midwinter and his family. Charles moved in in 1881, having previously been in No. 67 (see page 79). Ten years later, in 1887, he and his family emigrated to Canada.

<sup>46</sup> *Surrey Advertiser* 6 June 1885

When, in August 1887, a number of houses in the row were advertised for sale, a Mr Risdon William Garwood, watchmaker and jeweller, of Guildford was the sitting tenant in No. 1, at an annual rent of £32<sup>47</sup>.

In the 1891 census, Elizabeth Barnes, fancy draper, was living (and presumably trading) there. She stayed until 1895 when she moved into Walton Road.

The 1899 and 1900 directories show a Mrs Flora Louisa Girdlestone, hairdresser & tobacconist, occupying the building.

Ernest Stephen Sallabank, who was living near Reading, had lost his wife in 1895, aged just 25. In 1901, he had arrived in Woking, was living at No. 1 Chertsey Road and running a hairdressing and tobacconist business. Later that year he married again - to Elizabeth Jane Pepper.

In 1907, Ernest died, himself just 37 years old, leaving Elizabeth and a year-old daughter. Elizabeth took over the hairdressing and tobacco business – later also being described as a perfumier. The business continued until the 1960s, Elizabeth’s daughter Florence, presumably taking over the day to day running at some point.

Elizabeth outlived her daughter (who died in 1863) dying in 1968, aged 95.

The premises were subsequently taken over by Boomerang Taxis, who operated from there until at least the mid-1970s.

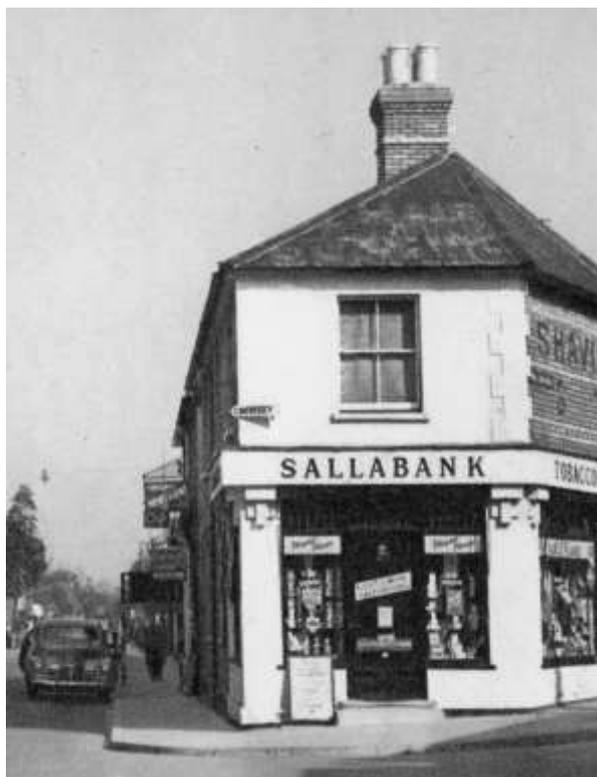


Figure 145. Sallabank's shop c1950



Figure 146. Boomerang Taxis 1960s

The building was demolished in the 1980s to allow for the Dukes Court Development.

<sup>47</sup> *Surrey Advertiser* 27 August 1887

Occupants of No. 69	
1883-87	Charles Midwinter, watch & clock maker
1887-90	Risdon William Garwood, watch & clock maker
1891-95	Elizabeth Barnes, fancy draper
1898-1900	Mrs Flora Louisa Girdlestone, hairdresser & tobacconist
1901-07	Ernest Stephen Sallabank, hairdresser, & tobacconist
1907-64	Elizabeth Jane Sallabank, hairdresser, perfumer & tobacconist (The Start Saloon)
1965-74	Boomerang Taxi Company

### **No.s 71 & 73 'Dorset House' – No.s 2 & 3**

No.s 71 & 73 'Dorset House' were a pair of semi-detached cottages, built in about 1880. When they came up for sale in 1887, they were renting for £26 per annum apiece<sup>48</sup>.

The first known occupant of No. 71 was Mr. Rogers, in 1885. Albert Pocock (see page 26) briefly had a tobacconist shop here before William Evans opened his tobacconist shop in about 1903. These were the first in a series of tobacconist/newsagent businesses in the premises, run by various people, over seventy years

Occupants of No. 71	
1885	Mr Rogers
1887-88	Albert Phillips
1889-95	Henry Andrews / Miss Caroline Andrews
1899-1901	Albert Pocock, newsagent/tobacconist
1903-37	William Evans, tobacconist, newsagent, etc
1939	William G Barnard
1942-56	Albert V Foster, tobacconist
1957-68	The Old Shop, tobacconist, newsagent

The first occupant of No. 73 was William Hunt or his son Jeremiah (who is listed as resident in the 1881 census). The house was named Dorset House, presumably as a homage to their county of birth.<sup>49</sup>

Stephen Lush, a grocer and pork butcher, then had his shop here for nearly fifty years, from 1883 until 1930.

<sup>48</sup> *Surrey Advertiser* 27 August 1887

<sup>49</sup> William and his son Jeremiah were all born in Kington Magna, Dorset

After the war, the shop was taken over by a milliner, trading as Jeremina. Jeremina occupied the shop for 5 years before moving to a new location at 11 Guildford Road.

As Jeremina moved out, in September 1950, the Woking Society of Arts used the shop for an exhibition of pictures.

In 1951, Drew's Furniture Mart, run by Hubert Charles Williamson & Colin Brewer moved in, trading there for the next fifteen years.

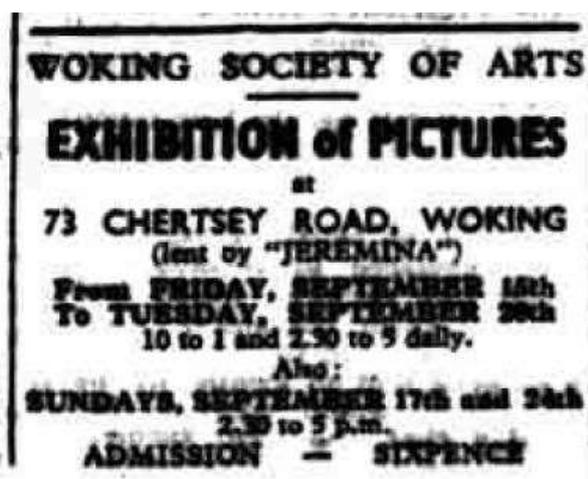


Figure 147. Exhibition advertisement

The building was demolished in the 1980s to allow for the Dukes Court development.

Occupants of No. 73	
1881-82	William Hunt, Grocer
1883-1930	Stephen Lush, grocer & pork butcher
1930-39	Lutley Brothers, dairymen
1940	Isabella S Bernard
1945-47	Edward B Wyborn
1947-50	Jeremina, milliner
1951-64	Drew's Furniture Mart
1967-68	Caterfitters Ltd.
1970-74	Julius Caesar, restaurant

### No.s 75 & 75b – No. 4

Number 75 Chertsey Road was built in about 1880 as one of a pair of semi-detached houses, with no. 77, although 77 had a frontage about 30% wider. When it came up for sale in 1887, the annual rent was £30<sup>50</sup>.

The first known occupant of No. 75 was Mrs Sophia Elizabeth Rooke, a widow, who ran a stationery business<sup>51</sup> for a few years until her death in 1888. In 1889, John Charles Wingfield, retired solicitor's clerk, moved in. He operated as a bookseller and stationer. John Wingfield died in 1904.

In 1905, the house was vacant but, by 1908, Mrs Harriet Hannah Ablett was running a toys and fancy goods shop. This closed in 1914.

<sup>50</sup> *Surrey Advertiser* 27 August 1887

<sup>51</sup> *Post Office Home Counties Directory*, 1887

In 1914, William Herbert John Singleton took over the shop (Figure 148) and had it as a newsagents and fancy goods shop until 1921.



Figure 148. Singleton's newsagents 1914



Figure 149. Miller's Café 1960s

In 1921 Walter Thomas Colborne took over the shop and ran it, also as a newsagents and fancy goods shop, until his death in 1930.

In about 1930, an annexe was built onto No. 75 to fill the gap between it and No. 73; the annexe was designated 75b. From 1930, James Lush, butcher, took over No. 75 and a business called Pedlars Pack traded from 75b. Pedlars Pack was run by Rachel and Edward Francis of Sunningdale.

The building was demolished in the 1980s to allow for the Dukes Court development.

Occupants of No.s 75/75b		
1885-88	Mrs Sophia Elizabeth Rooke, stationer	
1889-1901	John Charles Wingfield, solicitor's clerk; bookseller, stationer	
1905	<i>vacant</i>	
1908-13	Mrs Harriet Hannah Ablett, toys, wool and fancy goods	
1914-21	William Herbert John Singleton, newsagent and fancy goods dealer	
1921-30	Walter Thomas Colborne, newsagent and fancy goods dealer	
1930-34	James Lush, butcher	Pedlars Pack
1937	W & R Foster, boots, shoes, repairs	
1939	Henry L Leyton, Antiques dealer	
1943-47	The Woking Book Shop	New Modes
1948	<i>vacant</i>	
1949-68	Miller's Café (James R Fowles)	Meg Scott, court hairdresser

## No.s 77 & 77a – No. 5

Number 77 Chertsey Road was built in about 1880 as one of a pair of semi-detached houses, with No. 75, although 77 had a frontage about 30% wider. When it came up for sale in 1887, the annual rent was £40<sup>52</sup>.

In 1888, William John Butt, carpenter & builder, took possession of No. 77. It was probably he who, by 1914, had extended the building – what would later be 77a.

William John Butt was born in Kington Magna, Dorset in 1841. In 1867 he married Emily, daughter of Stephen Lush who would also move to Woking and live 2 doors down at No. 73 (see page 83).

William and Emily moved to Hersham (where their eldest son and daughter were born), but by 1871 were living in Woking, in Ellen Street (later West Street).

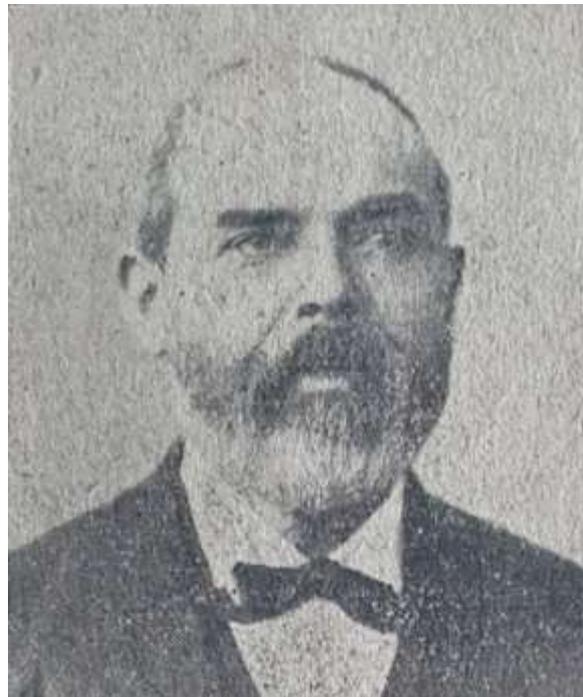


Figure 150. William John Butt 1841-1919

In 1881 William was in Goldsworth Road, described as a ‘Master Builder’ employing 14 men and 2 boys<sup>53</sup>.



Figure 151. 77 Chertsey Road 1914



Figure 152. J A G Barber Antiques, 1960s

<sup>52</sup> *Surrey Advertiser* 27 August 1887

<sup>53</sup> *1881 Census of England and Wales*, Class: RG11; Piece: 772; Folio: 47; Page: 11

William died in 1919 and Emily inherited the business – she probably didn't take an active role, already being 72 years old.

After Emily's death in 1931, the house was divided into two, the extension becoming 77a.

Justin Alexander Gustav Barber opened his antiques shop in No. 77. 77a became home to Diana, wools, the proprietor of which was Mrs Bessie Janes.

Justin Barber combined his antiques business with an art gallery, known as the Daedalus Gallery, which held a number of exhibitions.



Figure 153. Poster for a Claude Rowberry exhibition at Daedalus Gallery

The building was demolished in the 1980s to allow for the Dukes Court development.

Occupants of No.s 77/77a		
1880-1919	William John Butt, carpenter & builder/furniture dealer	
1919-31	Mrs Emily Butt, house furnisher, builder, etc.	
1934-4?	Justin Alexander Gustav Barber, antiques, etc	Diana, wools, etc
194?-48		WVS Clothing Centre
1954-64	Daedalus Gallery	Edward J Finneron, bookseller
1968-78		Shannon, picture framer

### No.s 79-87

Numbers 79 to 87 Chertsey Road comprised a terrace of five houses, built in the early to mid-1880s. No.s 85 and 87 had a slightly wider footprint than the other three, but otherwise all were identical in terms of build-design, construction and detailing (a double horizontal band of dark bricks running across the first-floor windows can be seen in Figure 155). In 1885, the freehold was advertised for sale, each unit then yielding £50 rent per annum<sup>54</sup>.

<sup>54</sup> *Surrey Advertiser* 6 June 1885

## No. 79 – No 6

The first known occupant of No. 79 (No. 6 as it then was) was Robert Bedford junior, a whitesmith, who was living there in 1887-88.

The 1891 census shows John Sanders and his family living at No. 6; he is described as 'confectioner'. Ten years earlier he was a farmer of 300 acres in Tillington, Sussex employing 16 men and 8 boys, so this was probably a retirement. John Sanders died in 1896.



Figure 154. John Sanders 1825-1909

Sydney Harry Cullum was a saddler from Sussex. He married at the end of 1886 and his first daughter was born, in Woking, in November 1887; he presumably arrived in Woking earlier that year. In the 1891 census he is living in Chertsey Road, somewhere near the Albion Hotel.

In 1899 Sydney moved into No. 6 Chertsey Road, where he carried on business for over twenty years.



Figure 155. Sydney Cullum's shop 1914 (where the gentleman in the white overalls [probably Sidney] is standing)



Figure 156. Vacant, in the 1960s (directly behind the car)

The next occupant of (now) No. 79 was James Hart; James was a farmer from Worplesdon. In 1923 he set up business in Chertsey Road as a fruiterer. After James died, in 1948, the business was carried on by his wife, Annie and their son, Joseph. The business closed following Annie's death in 1966.

After standing vacant for a number of years, the building was briefly home to Woods Management Consultants before being demolished in the 1980s to allow for the Dukes Court development.

Occupants of No. 79	
1881-88	Robert Bedford junior, whitesmith
1891-96	John Sanders, confectioner
1899-1922	Sydney Harry Cullum, saddler
1923-48	James Hart, fruiterer
1954-66	Mrs Annie Hart, fruiterer
1968	<i>vacant</i>
1972-73	Woods Management Consultancy



Figure 157. Dukes Court 2020

## No.s 81 & 83 - No.s 7 & 8

The first occupant of No. 81 was Joseph Henry Jose, a tailor, who was born in Cornwall. Joseph moved to Woking in 1885, from Godalming where he had previously been living and working.

In 1893 Joseph's wife died. At around this time, Joseph retired and moved to Norfolk. His son, Philip Mortimer Broad Jose, took over the tailoring business, which he ran for the next fifty years. Philip married Lucy Mary Wingfield, in 1894, who was living three doors down at No. 75.



Figure 158. Philip Jose's shop 1914  
(light-coloured building before Snowden's drapers)

After Philip died in 1942, the shop was taken over by William John David Kelland, who also ran a tailoring business.

In 1954, the shop housed the Woking Surplus Stores; from 1957 to 1964 it was vacant and in 1968 it was home to the Woking Herald.



Figure 159. Woking Herald c.1975  
The Stanley Road extension and Liberal Club can be seen to the left

Occupants of No. 81	
1885-87	John Fenn
1887-1894	Joseph Henry Jose, tailor
1894-1942	Philip Mortimer Broad Jose, tailor
1943-48	William J D Kelland, tailor
1953-57	Woking Surplus Stores (Ivor R Hale)
1964	<i>vacant</i>
1967-75	Woking Herald
1977	Boomerang Taxis

William Hunt, grocer, is listed in the 1881 census and probably then occupied this building. The first known occupant of No. 83 (then No. 8) was Stephen Hinxman, gardener and seedsman, who was present by 1885. In 1892, Stephen advertised his business for sale due to illness<sup>55</sup>.

For the next sixty years No. 83 was home to a succession of draper's shops. The first was Edward John Elstow, son of John Elstow, whose boot shop was at No. 87 (see page 95). After his father died, in 1905, Edward took over his father's business. No. 83 passed to John Snowden in 1906/7.

John Snowden ran his business in Chertsey Road for about twelve years. When his wife, Florence, died in 1919, aged 36, he sold up and left Woking, possibly returning to his home county of Norfolk.

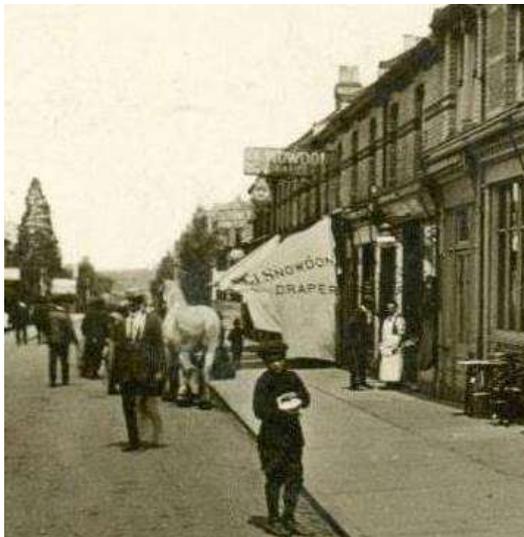


Figure 160. Snowden's shop 1913

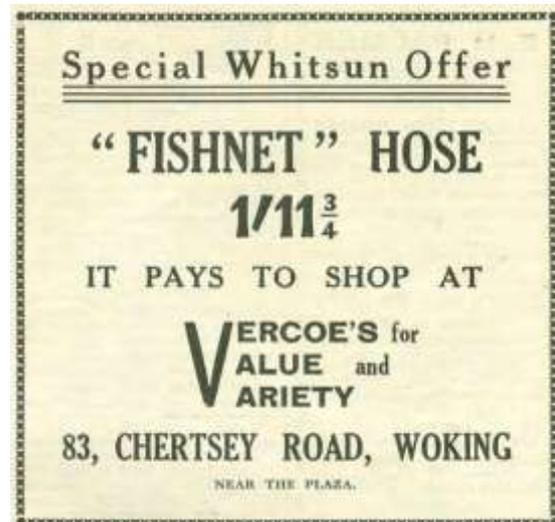


Figure 161. Vercoe advertisement 1933

The next draper to occupy No. 83 was Edwin Albert Back – from 1919/20 to 1931. Edwin probably had to give up his business due to failing eyesight – in 1939 he is living in Church Street and described as 'Draper (retired) Blind Pensioner'<sup>56</sup>.

<sup>55</sup> *Surrey Advertiser* 8 June 1892

<sup>56</sup> *1939 England and Wales Register*, TNA reference: RG 101/1929E

In 1931 Henry Giles Vercoe<sup>57</sup> took over No. 83 and ran his drapery business until 1937 (probably with his sister, Ellen). Perhaps business was not very good in this period; in 1939 Henry and Ellen were both working as draper's assistants in Hemel Hempstead.

In 1937, Ethel May Taylor - a local girl, born in Brookwood - took over the shop. She too ran a drapery business, throughout the war and until 1948, when she retired.

The last draper to occupy the shop was Mrs Phyllis Cockerill, from 1949 until about 1960. She was the husband of Ernest Cockerill, who ran Rowlands (cash) Store next door at No. 85, where they lived.

No. 83 was vacant from 1957 until at least 1964. It was then briefly occupied by Lucketts furniture dealers as one of their several sites.

No. 83 was demolished in about 1970 and no. 81 in the mid-1970s, to allow for the extension of Stanley Road to link up with Church Street. In Figure 162, the white-fronted building is No.s 89 and 91 - what used to be the Temperance Hotel (see page 95). The space to its right is where No.s 83-87 have been demolished.

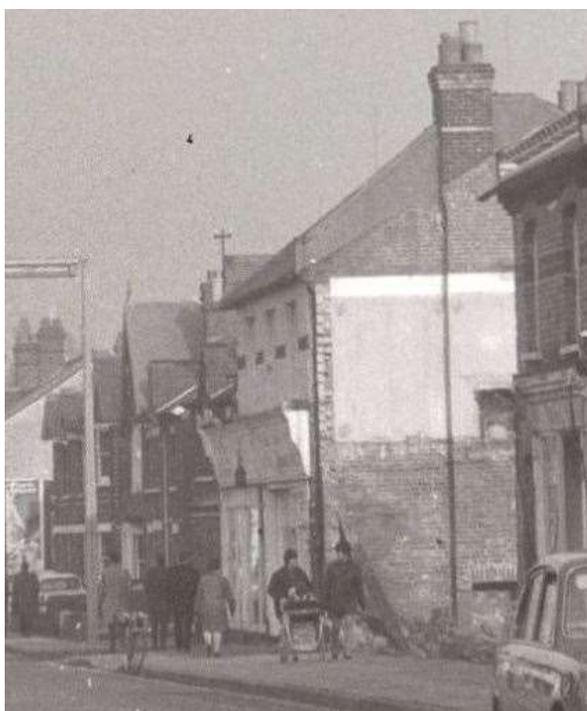


Figure 162. No.s 83-87 demolished

Occupants of No. 83	
1886-92	Stephen Hinxman, gardener & seedsman
1896-1906	Edward John Elstow, draper
1907-19	John Snowdon, general & fancy draper
1920-31	Edwin Albert Back, general & fancy draper
1931-37	Henry Giles Vercoe, draper
1937-48	Ethel May Taylor, general & fancy draper
1949-57	Phyllis M Cockerill, general and fancy draper
1957-64	<i>vacant</i>
1968-70	Lucketts (Furniture) Ltd.

<sup>57</sup> Incorrectly listed as Henry **George** Vercoe in the Electoral register

## No.s 85 'Harleon' & 87 - No.s 9 & 10

No.s 85 and 87 Chertsey Road were two, of a terrace of five, houses built in the early to mid-1880s. Until the renumbering in c.1910, they were No.s 9 and 10.

The first known occupant of No. 85, Miss Higgins, was present in 1885; in 1888, the building was occupied by Richard Phillips.

From 1890 until his death in 1898, it was home to Harry Dowden, a Hampshire-born oil and colourman<sup>58</sup>.

In October 1899 Woking's first Co-Op opened its doors at No. 85, initially renting the building from Harry Dowden's widow, Jane, for three years. By 1904 they had moved to larger premises in Church Street.



Figure 163. Woking's first Co-Op store

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<sup>58</sup> An 'Oil & colourman' was either a dealer in the victualling trade (presumably selling things like olive oil and food colourings) or someone who would manufacture and mix paints; Harry was the latter. An 'oilman' would sell oil for oil-lamps (these terms were, not uncommonly, confused).

In 1904 David Henry 'Harry' Godwin set up a cycle dealership at No. 85, whilst his brother, Lionel, established an art-metal and casement manufactory business, employing their father, David, as a metal casement maker. The two brothers traded as Godwin Bro.s and named the premises Harleon Works.

From 1911 until his death in 1957, Lionel lived at Heath Cottage, 100 Chertsey Road (see page 209).

In 1931, Godwin Brothers moved to 119 Maybury Road.

From 1932, No. 85 was occupied by Edward John Niccolls & Sons, cycle and motor works.

Edward Niccolls died in Iraq, in May 1935. It presumably took a while to sort out his estate. The building stood vacant until 1938, when the Cash Store moved in.

The Cash Store was run by Ernest Edward Cockerill until the mid-1960s.

The building then stood empty until it was demolished in about 1970.



Figure 164. Godwin Bro.s advertisement 1908

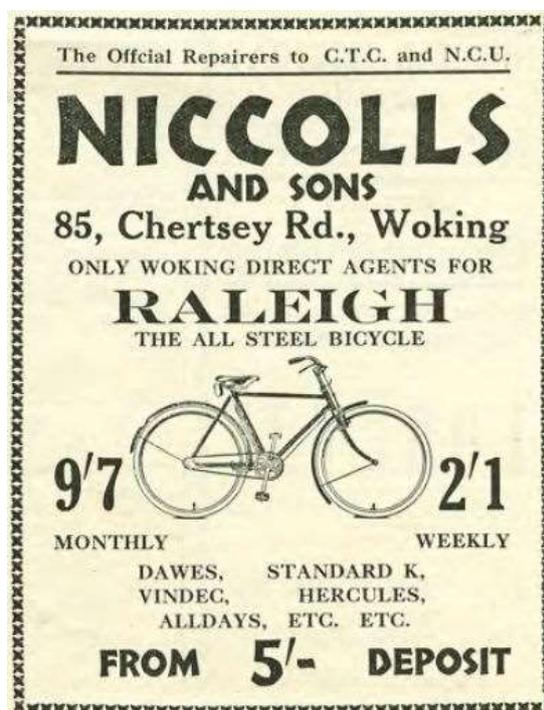


Figure 165. Niccolls advertisement 1933

Occupants of No. 85	
1885	Miss [Elizabeth?] Higgins
1888	Richard Phillips
1890-98	Harry Dowden, oil & colourman
1899-1903	Co-Op
1905-31	Godwin Brothers, cycle makers and art metal manufacturers
1932-35	Edward John Niccolls & Sons, cycle and motor works
1935-37	<i>vacant</i>
1938-64	The Cash Store (Ernest E Cockerill)
1968	<i>vacant</i>

John Elstow was born in Rushden, Northamptonshire in about 1845. He moved to Woking in about 1870, living in Brookwood and Knaphill<sup>59</sup>. In about 1885, John moved his boot-making business and shop from Knaphill to 87 Chertsey Road.

John Elstow died in 1899. His son, Edward John Elstow, who had started his own drapery business about 5 years earlier (and was occupying No. 83) now took over the boot-making business as well. After Edward retired, in about 1921, the shop was taken over by the John Farmer Shoe Company and then in about 1950 became home to F Hosking's shoe repair business.

The building was demolished in about 1970 to allow for the extension of Stanley Road to link up with Church Street.

Occupants of No. 87	
1885-1899	John Elstow, bootmaker
1899-1921	Edward John Elstow
1923-49	John Farmer Shoe Co.
1954-64	F Hosking, shoe repair (J R Lynch)
1968	Joyce R Lynch

### No.s 89-93 No.s 11, 12 & 13

No. 11 Chertsey Road was constructed in 1881. It was opened as a Temperance Hotel. When it came up for sale in 1887, the annual rent was £45<sup>60</sup>. The hotel closed in 1902, the building was divided into two and took No.s 11 and 12, becoming 89 and 91 following the c.1910 renumbering.

No. 13 was an extension built in about 1905, becoming No. 93 in 1910.

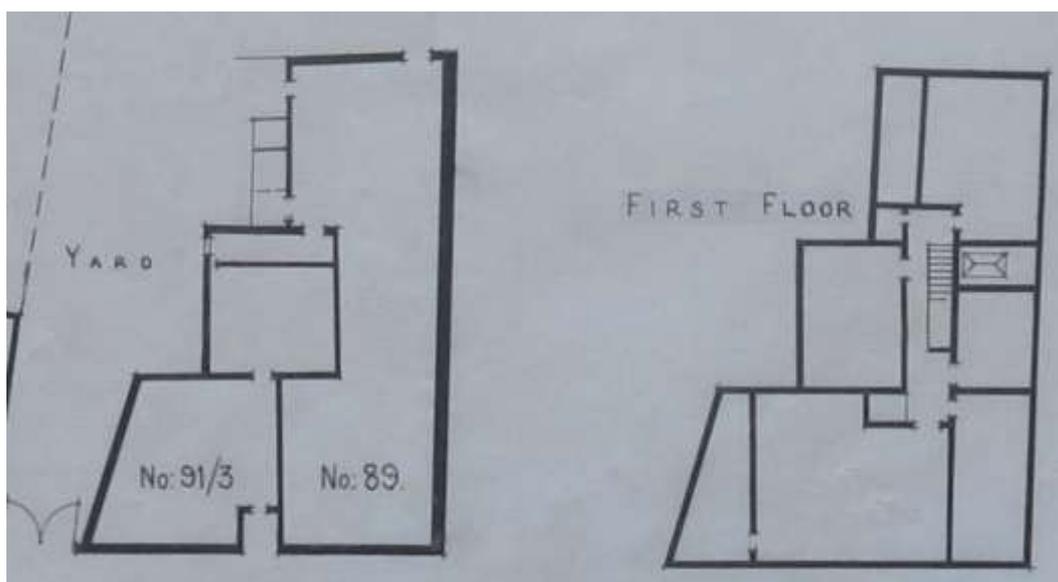


Figure 166. Plan (mid-20<sup>th</sup> century)

<sup>59</sup> 1871 UK Census; 1879 Surrey Electoral Register

<sup>60</sup> Surrey Advertiser 27 August 1887

## No. 89 No. 11

No. 11 Chertsey Road was built in 1881, on the former site of the 'British Workman'<sup>61</sup>, by William John Butt; the architects were Welman and Street of Godalming and Guildford. It formally opened as a Temperance Hotel on 9<sup>th</sup> January 1882, under the management of Mr Roberts.<sup>62</sup>

The hotel enjoyed over two years of successful operating but then seems to have closed in 1884. It reopened under new management in January 1885.

The hotel closed in September 1902 and was acquired by Drowley & Co. The building was divided into two and took No.s 11 and 12, becoming 89 and 91 following the c.1910 renumbering. Drowley & Co. occupied No. 11 and No. 13 (which they built in about 1903). No. 12 was leased out.

### Drowley & Co.

Drowley & Co. were one of a number of building firms in Woking in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The firm was started by William John Drowley, in partnership with his brother, George Frederick Drowley; William was born in 1858, in Dover, Kent, the son of a brick-layer.

William moved to Woking in 1893 and lived in Commercial Road. By 1899, he had built and moved into *Cecildene* (see page 101) in Chertsey Road. In 1902 Drowley & Co. acquired the old Temperance Hotel, for a builder's yard and offices.

In 1907, William, with Ernest Allen (a printing firm, who were renting No. 12 from Drowley), produced a guide to Woking, entitled *Woking as a Residential District*. The guide was promoting Woking as a place to live and featured a number of buildings erected by Drowley & Co.:

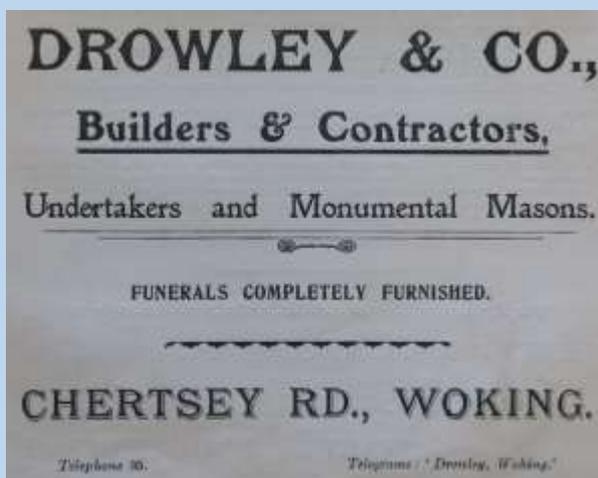


Figure 167. Drowley advertisement 1908



Figure 168. *Woking as a Residential District*

*Comeragh Court, High Housen, Hurstgate, Hohen Heid, Lingdown, Little Widbury, Stony Fore, The Links, The Patch, Westward, all in Hook Heath;*

*Ashwood Grange, Highfield, Normanhurst, Heathside Estate; London House, Chertsey Road;*

*Wesleyan Church, Woking Municipal Offices, Commercial Road; The Nook, Hill View Estate; Ganges Lodge, Pembroke Road;*

*Horsell Dene, Hillside, Meadow Lea, Southcote, Church Hill Estate, Horsell; Moorhatch, Horsell; Wood Close, Maybury*

<sup>61</sup> The British Workman was an English broadsheet periodical, published between 1855 and 1892, and aimed to "promote the health, wealth and happiness of the working classes". The text, was a mixture of socialism and Protestantism. It was a strong advocate of temperance, and was "dedicated to the industrial classes". Temperance social clubs sprang up, named after it.

<sup>62</sup> *West Surrey Times* 14 January 1882

In about 1903, Drowley & Co. extended No. 12, creating No. 13 in the process. No. 11 was used as Drowley's monumental mason arm, whilst No. 13 was the builder's yard and office.

Drowley & Co. appear to have sold up when William retired, in about 1913. 89-93 Chertsey Road were taken over by the Woking Autocar Co. (see page 136).

Woking Autocar were succeeded, in 1920, by the Brookwood Motor Co. aka Capper Brothers.

In 1926/7 Capper Brothers moved their business to White Rose Lane. After the departure of Capper Brothers, No.s 89-93 were separated and each came under different occupation.



Figure 169. 1920s Schneider 14/16 MP

In 1930, Gittings Brothers, fruit merchants, took over No. 89. They were followed by W J Enticknap, turf accountants; and RCG Ltd, metal and electrical workers.

In 1948, E A Humberstone & Co., flooring specialists, moved in. Soon, they had expanded into No.s 91 and 93.

In the mid-1960s, Humberstone & Co. was replaced by Peter's second-hand dealership.

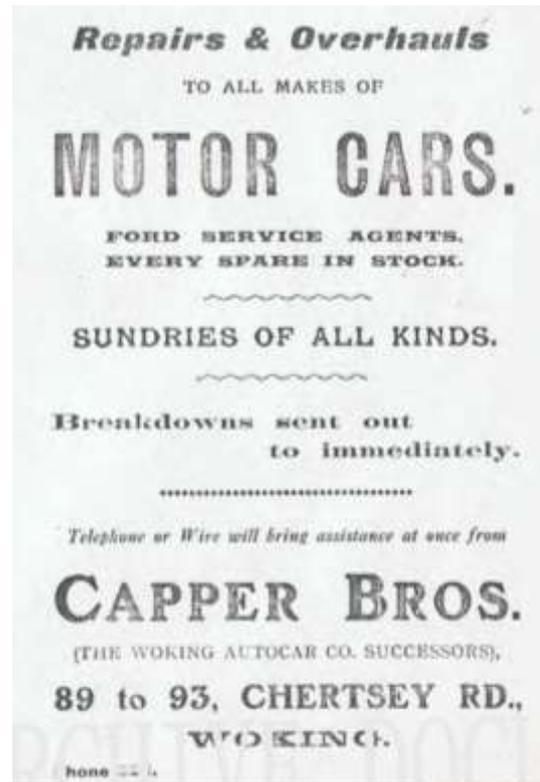


Figure 170. Capper Bros advertisement 1921

No. 89 was taken over by Schneider Automobiles<sup>63</sup>. Schneider was made bankrupt in 1929; production was run down and the factory closed in 1930.

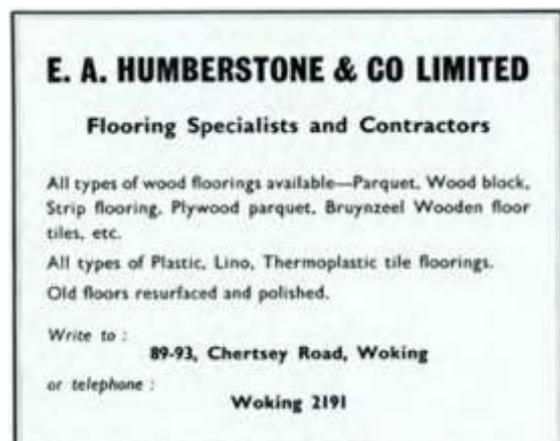


Figure 171. Humberstone advertisement c1960

<sup>63</sup> Rochet-Schneider was a French company, based in Lyons, that produced automobiles between 1894 and 1932; many were exported to England

Peter's occupied the building for about 10 years before the buildings were demolished in the 1970s, when Stanley Road was extended to link up with Church Street. The new Liberal Club was built on the site, its entrance facing towards Stanley Road (see Figure 175).

The Liberal Club was, in turn, demolished in around 2000 and Bramwell Place now sits on the site.

Occupants of No. 89	
1878-82	British Workman
1882-1904	Temperance Hotel
1908-11	Drowley & Co., monumental masons
1913-18	Woking Autocar Co. (Frank Derry)
1920-26	Brookwood Motor Company (Capper Bro.s)
1927-30	Schneider Automobiles, motor engineers
1931-37	Gittings Bro.s, fruit merchants
1937-39	Walter John Enticknap, turf accountant
1943-48	RCG Ltd, metal & electrical workers
1949-64	Edward A Humberstone & Co.
1968-74	Peter's second-hand dealership

### No. 91 No. 12

No. 91 was originally part of the Temperance Hotel (see page 96). In 1903, the hotel was taken over by Drowley & Co. (see page 96); Drowley rented out No. 12 (later No. 91) to Davis & Allen, printers, bookbinders, general & fancy stationers.

Postcards printed by Davis & Allen are still fairly often seen.

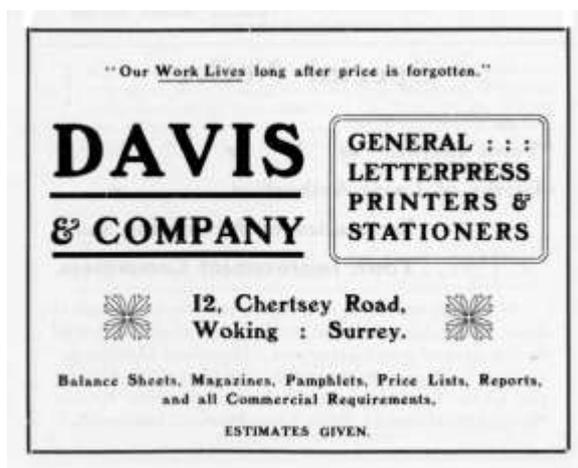


Figure 172. Davis advertisement 1908



Figure 173. Davis's works c1908

From 1913 to 1926, the building was occupied by firstly, the Woking Autocar Co. (see page 136) and then by the Brookwood Motor Company (Capper Bro.s).

After the departure of Capper Brothers, No.s 89-93 were separated and each came under different occupation. No. 91 was taken over by the Woking Canine Bureau; they only stayed for a couple of years.

From 1928 to 1932, the building was home to the Sunray Café, before it moved across the road into what was then No. 56, next to the Plaza cinema (see page 186).

After standing vacant for a while, No. 91 became another café – the Ace of Clubs, which was there in 1933, run by Kathleen Violet Grace.

In 1937, Henry Joseph Jones expanded his hairdressing business from No. 93 next door.



Figure 174. Sunray Café advertisement 1928

Occupants of No. 91	
1882-1904	Temperance Hotel
1904-13	Davis & Allen
1913-18	Woking Autocar Co. (Frank Derry)
1920-26	Brookwood Motor Company (Capper Bro.s)
1927-28	Woking Canine Bureau
1928-31	Sunray Café
1933	Ace of Clubs
1937-48	Henry Joseph Jones, hairdresser, etc
1949-51	Frederick A Stubbington
1954-64	Edward A Humberstone & Co.
1968-74	Peter's second-hand dealer

### No. 93 No. 13

No. 13 was built, in about 1903, by Drowley & Co. as a builder's yard and office (see page 96). No. 13 with its sloping roof can be seen on the left in Figure 173.

From 1913 to 1926, the building was occupied by firstly, the Woking Autocar Co. (see page 136) and then by the Brookwood Motor Company (Capper Bro.s).

After the departure of Capper Brothers, No.s 89-93 were separated and each came under different occupation. No. 93 was vacant for a few years, and then taken over, briefly, by Radio Den.

By 1934, Henry Joseph Jones had established his hairdressing business; he traded there for over 15 years. After the Ace of Clubs closed, Henry expanded into No. 91, next door.

Occupants of No. 93	
1905-11	Drowley & Co., builders
1911-13	Davis & Allen
1913-18	Woking Autocar Co. (Frank Derry)
1920-26	Brookwood Motor Company (Capper Bro.s)
1927-30	<i>vacant</i>
1931-33	Radio Den
1934-49	Henry Joseph Jones, hairdresser, etc
1950-51	Frederick Stubbington
1954-64	Edward A Humberstone & Co.
1968-74	Peter's second-hand dealer

The buildings were demolished in the 1970s when Stanley Road was extended to link up with Church Street. The new Liberal Club was built on the site, its entrance facing towards Stanley Road (see Figure 175). The Liberal Club was, in turn, demolished in around 2000 and Bramwell Place now sits on the site.

## NORTH END

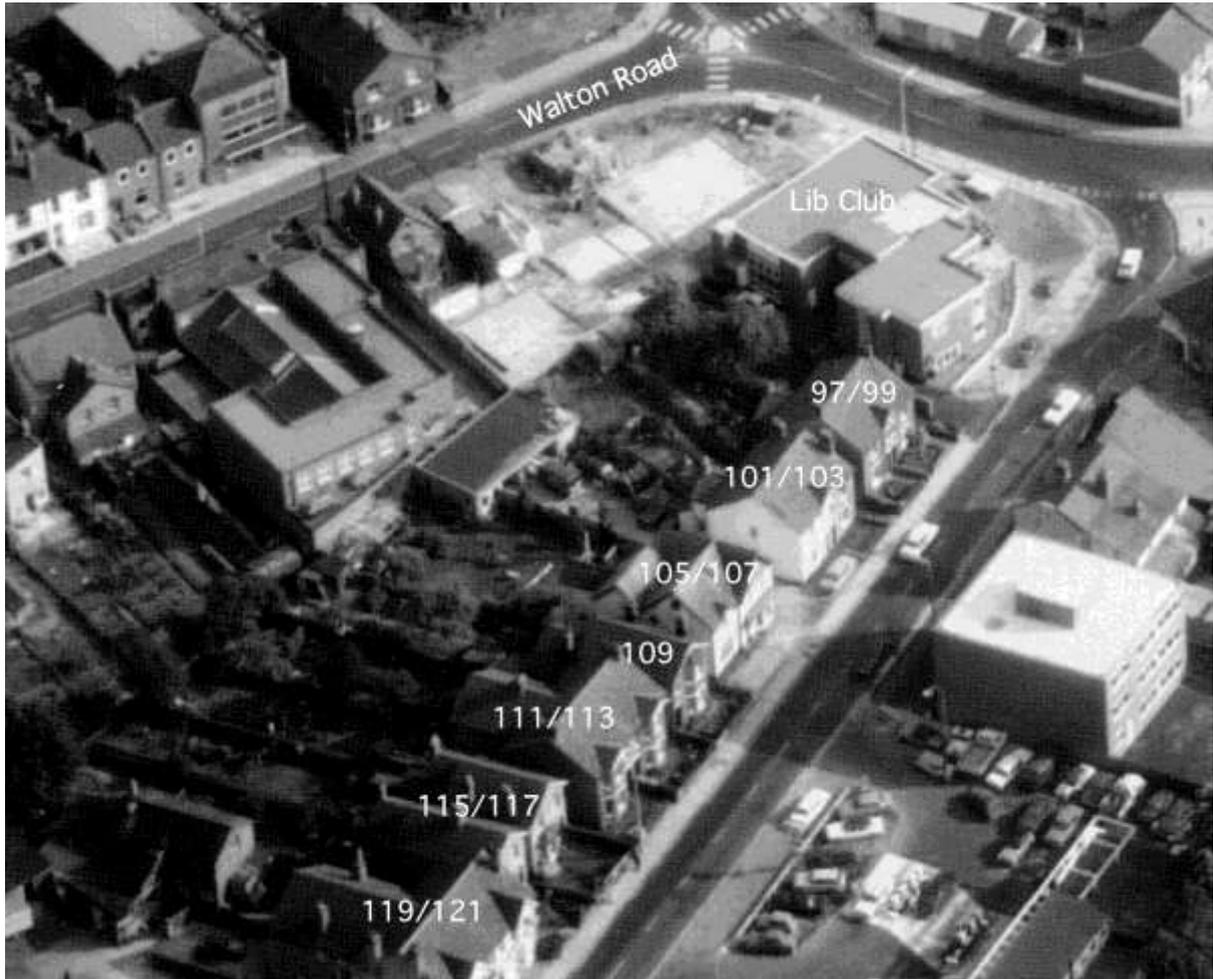


Figure 175. Aerial view 1971

### No. 95 – ‘Cecildene’

William John Drowley was a builder, born in Dover, Kent in 1858. He moved to Woking in 1893, living in Commercial Road (see page 96).

By 1899, William Drowley had built and moved, with his family, into Cecildene in Chertsey Road<sup>64</sup>.

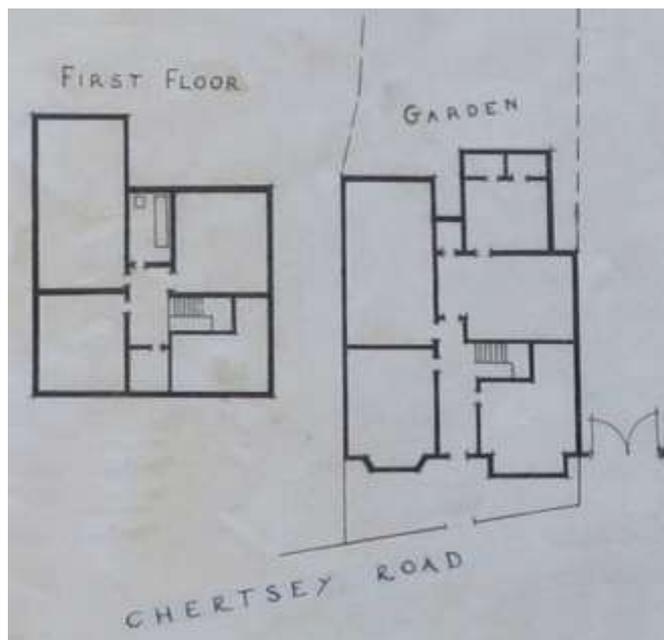


Figure 176. Plan of Cecildene

<sup>64</sup> *Surrey Electoral Registers, 1832-1962, CC802/11/4*

In 1905, William moved out of Cecildene (to Hill View Road) and his brother George moved in. In about 1910, George and his family moved to Maybury Road.

In 1910, Albert Edward Jones, also a builder, took over Cecildene, using it as a residence but apparently also as offices for his business (Figure 178).



Figure 177. A E Jones 1880-1973



Figure 178. A E Jones advertisement 1934

After Albert's retirement, in about 1950, Cecildene was occupied briefly by South-Eastern Gas. It then lay vacant for a number of years before Optichrome occupied it briefly.

Occupants of Cecildene	
1900-04	William John Drowley
1904-09	George Frederick Drowley
1911-48	Albert Edward Jones, builder
1949	Woking Gas Company
1951-58	South-Eastern Gas
1958-64	<i>vacant</i>
1967-70	Optichrome

Cecildene was demolished in the mid-1970s. The new Liberal Club was built on the site, its entrance facing towards Stanley Road (see Figure 175). The Liberal Club was, in turn, demolished in around 2000 and Bramwell Place now sits on the site.



Figure 179. Bramwell Place 2020

### **No.s 97 & 99 – ‘Hampton Villas’**

Hampton Villas was a pair of semi-detached cottages, built in about 1890 (seen in Figure 175). George Watmore, a railway employee, had lived in Thomas Cottages (see page 172) for over thirty years; he moved into 1 Hampton Villas in 1892, his son William, moving in next door at the same time. George had been renting at Thomas Cottages but the Electoral Registers show George and William as owners from 1982 so they presumably bought Hampton Villas between them.

The two cottages remained private dwellings for their entire existence; both had about half a dozen different occupants between 1890 and about 1970 when they were demolished; Bramwell Place now sits on the site.

Occupants of No. 97	
1892-1905	George Watmore
1908	<i>vacant</i>
1909-14	Edward Octavius Long
1914-15	Arthur Large
1918-19	Joseph Baker
1920-34	Mrs Lois Over
1937-67	William John Over
1975	Ivy Wallace
Occupants of No. 99	
1892-1903	William H Watmore
1904-05	George H Over
1908	<i>vacant</i>
1910-12	Charles Appleby

1913-19	George William Smith
1920-23	Thomas Newman
1923-68	Leonard Reeder
1975	Marion Reeder

### No.s 101 & 103 – ‘Mortimer Villas’

Mortimer Villas was a pair of semi-detached cottages, built in about 1890 (seen in Figure 175).

The two cottages remained private dwellings for their entire existence (although James Mills used No. 101 as the office address for his window cleaning business).

They were demolished in the early 1980s; Waterman House now sits on the site.

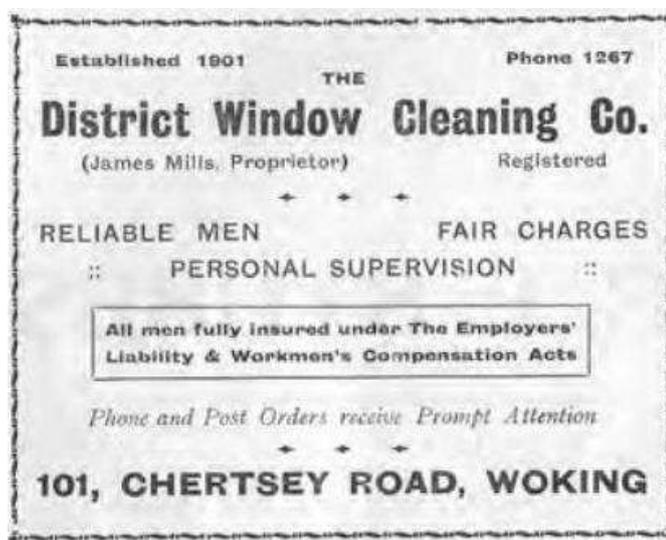


Figure 180. District Window Cleaning advert 1937

Occupants of No. 101	
1900	George Rooke
1901-3	Samuel Kershaw
1905	Walter William Jarratt
1908-11	William Cobbett
1914-48	Woking District Window Cleaning Co. (James J Mills)
1954-56	Robert J Goddard
1957-75	Gladys A Goddard

Occupants of No. 103	
1891-1905	George Lee
1906-21	George Edward Fisher
1921-39	Mrs Elizabeth Fisher
1943-68	Harold E Cole
1975	Bruce Nichole

### No.s 105 & 107 – ‘St Ambrose’

St Ambrose was a pair of semi-detached cottages, built in the 1890s (seen in Figure 175). No. 105 appears to have been built first, in about 1893, possibly by Charles Campbell Colborne the first occupant<sup>65</sup>, who probably

<sup>65</sup> In the 1901 census Charles was described as ‘Postmaster & builder’ and was a builder in later years

named the house St Ambrose after his wife Ruth - her maiden name was Ambrose.

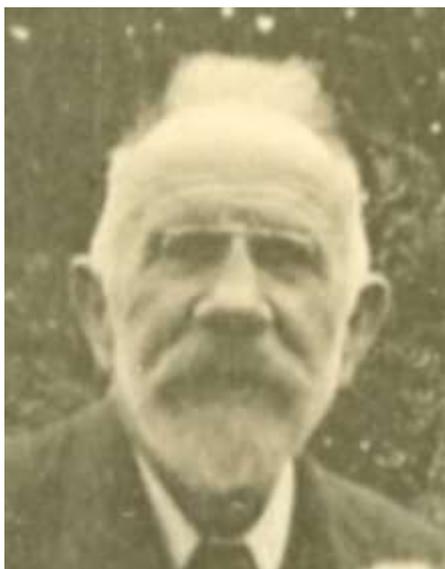


Figure 181. Charles Campbell Colborne



Figure 182. Ruth Colborne née Ambrose

By 1900, No. 107 had been built (with a different footprint) adjoining No. 105 and the two cottages were then referred to as 1 and 2 St Ambrose. They were then occupied by two of Charles's brothers, Alfred and Walter.

Occupants of No. 105	
1894-96	Charles Campbell Colborne
1897-03	Walter Thomas Colborne
1904-06	George R Cockell
1908	Mrs E Stevens
1911-56	The Misses Edith Mary Pheby & Edith Vince, costumiers
1957-64	<i>vacant</i>
1968-70	K A Foat
1972-80	Alan Montague Ltd

Occupants of No. 107	
1897-1900	Alfred William Colborne
1901-06	Mrs M A Williams
1908-09	Frederick Thomas Cutting
1911-40	Thomas E Hitchcock
1940-66	Mrs Caroline Beatrice Hitchcock
1975	Florence Tappenden

The two cottages were demolished in the early 1980s; Waterman House now sits on the site.

### **No. 109 – ‘Belgic Cottage’**

Belgic Cottage was built in about 1897 (seen in Figure 175). The first occupant was Thomas Fuller, a retired oil and colourman. Thereafter it remained a residential property until about 1970. It was demolished in about 1980 and the office block 111 Chertsey Road now sits on the site.

Occupants of Belgic Cottage	
1898-1908	Thomas Fuller, oil & colourman (retired)
1911	Alfred Rootham, cabinet-maker
1914-18	Herbert Stevens
1921	Walter John Enticknap
1923-32	G Heasman
1934	W H Field
1939	W R Frankland
1943-50	Alfred Boston
1954-75	Ernest Kelly

### **No.s 111 & 113 – ‘Buckland Villas’**

Buckland Villas were built in about 1893/4 (seen in Figure 175). The first occupants were Walter Chapman, an insurance agent, and Mrs Mary Tappenden, widow. Thereafter they remained residential properties until about 1970. They were demolished in about 1980 and the office block 111 Chertsey Road now sits on the site.

Occupants of No. 111	
1896-1906	Walter Chapman, insurance agent
1908-12	Walter John Allen, railway clerk
1914-30	Cecil Seymour Cobley, railway clerk
1932	Leslie Gloster
1934-52	William H Cole
1954-81	Miss Eunice G Cole

Occupants of No. 113	
1895-1914	Mrs Mary Tappenden, née Bridgland (widow)
1916-31	James Howard, carpenter & joiner
1934-55	Frank R Black
1957-64	<i>vacant</i>
1968	G R Raggett
1975	Christopher Raggett
1981	A Hussein

### No.s 115 & 117 – ‘The Yews’

The Yews was a pair of semi-detached cottages, built in about 1893 (seen in Figure 175). The first known occupant of No. 115 was William Barnard, a cabinet maker.

Occupants of No. 115	
1901-48	William Barnard, cabinet maker
1948-81	Florence M Barnard

Occupants of No. 117	
1894-1902	William Henry Vowler, baker and confectioner
1903-51	Joseph King, postman / Mrs Rose King
1951-64	Frederick J Cobbett
1968-79	Lawrence A Smith

The Yews remained residential until it was demolished in about 1981. The office block ‘111 Chertsey Road’ now sits on the site of No 115; the office block ‘121 Chertsey Road’ sits on the site of No 117, awaiting another redevelopment (Figure 184).

### No.s 119 & 121 ‘Norfolk House’

Norfolk House was a pair of semi-detached cottages (seen in Figure 175), built in the mid-to-late-1880s.

The first occupant of No. 119 was William John Collinson, baker & confectioner. William was born in Lincolnshire in 1856; in 1861 he was living with his unmarried mother and sister in Islington.

William was then taken in by the Shaftesbury Homes’ Farm School at Bisley (it is not known what became of his mother and sister).

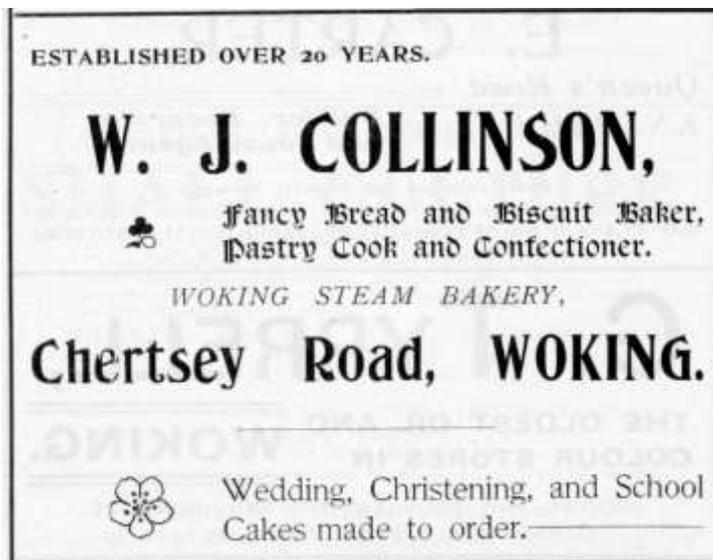


Figure 183. Collinson advertisement 1908

The Electoral roll lists

William and his family in Chertsey Road in 1886<sup>66</sup>; *Kelly’s Directory of Surrey* for 1891 shows his business in Chertsey Road, and a 1908 advertisement (Figure 183) states that he had been established for over twenty years.

<sup>66</sup> *Surrey Electoral Registers, 1832-1962, CC802/11/13*

John William Buhler took over the bakery in 1926/7; in the early 1950s, he was in turn succeeded by John Bell of Bell & Butler.

Occupants of No. 119	
1886-1926	William John Collinson, baker & confectioner
1927-50	John William Buhler, baker & confectioner
1954-72	Bell & Butler, bakers (John Bell)

The first record of occupation of No. 121 is not until 1900, when William Everson is listed in the electoral roll. Perhaps William Collinson occupied the whole of Norfolk House until about 1900.

From about 1905, until 1938, Mrs Caroline Needham, draper & milliner occupied No. 121. She was succeeded by Loxdale Warren-Smith, also a draper.

In 1954, the building was occupied, briefly, by Lesleens, ladies and children's wear. It then became the local office for the Women's Voluntary Services<sup>67</sup> and the Woking National Savings Office.

#### **National Savings**

The Committee on War Loans for Small Investors was set up in 1915, and following its recommendations, in April 1916 the National War Savings Committee was established. The National War Savings Committee covered England and Wales, with separate organisations set up for Scotland and Ireland. It encouraged organisation of local voluntary savings associations, and introduced war savings deposits, later known as war savings certificates, which were sold through the Post Office and Trustee Savings Banks.

Following the outbreak of the Second World War, the War Office re-organised the Regional Savings Committees and launched the War Savings Campaign. Savings groups were set up by volunteers in work places, schools and clubs. You could buy a savings stamp for as little as sixpence (2.5 pence today), or if you were feeling flush you could get one for two shillings and sixpence (12.5 pence). Once you'd got a total of 15 shillings worth (75 pence), you could exchange the stamps for a National Savings Certificate. If you had £5 worth of stamps you could get a Defence Bond. Both certificates and bonds were guaranteed to give a good rate of return after the war.

After the Second World War ended, the government encouraged people to keep saving to help fund the nation's recovery.

Occupants of No. 121	
1900-05	William Everson
1908-38	Mrs Caroline Helena Needham, draper & milliner
1938-53	Loxdale Warren-Smith, draper
1954	Lesleens, ladies and children's wear

<sup>67</sup> The Women's Voluntary Services (WVS) [now The Royal Voluntary Service] is a voluntary organisation concerned with helping people in need throughout the UK. It was founded in 1938 by Stella Isaacs, Marchioness of Reading, as a British women's organisation to recruit women into the Air Raid Precautions (ARP) services to help in the event of War.

1954-64	Women's Voluntary Services
1967-68	Woking National Savings Office
1972	F A Cuppen & Associates

Norfolk House was demolished in about 1980 and the office block 121 Chertsey Road now sits on the site, awaiting another redevelopment.



Figure 184. 121 Chertsey Road 2020

### **No. 123**

No. 123 Chertsey Road seems never to have existed. No map or plan shows a building and no directory lists anyone occupying such a building. When the road was first systematically numbered, in about 1910, it was presumably assumed that a building would be erected on the triangular plot between no. 121 and no. 1 Board School Road.

Between 1959 and 1971, 1 Board School Road was occupied by Continental Motorcycles (before they moved to Goldsworth Road).

The triangular plot of land next to No. 121 (which faced onto Chertsey Road) was used as their forecourt (Figure 185).

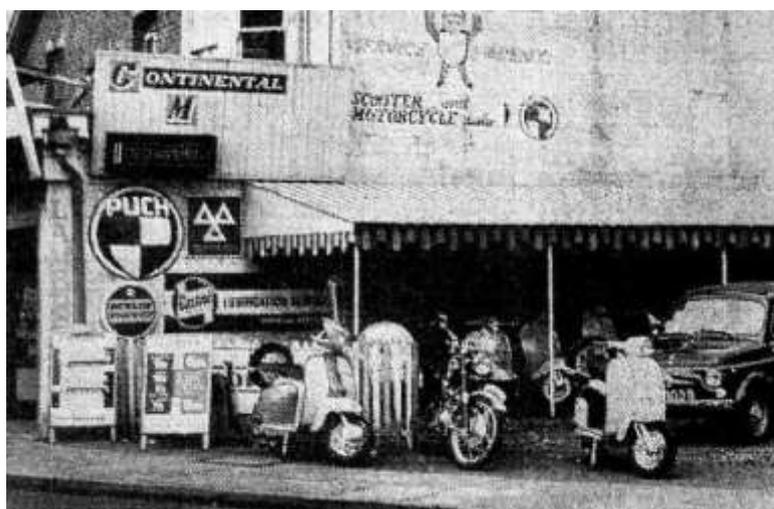


Figure 185. Continental Motorcycles 1962

Woking Car Mart

## No.s 125-133

In about 1879, Alfred Augustus Gale began building five detached houses, each in a sizeable plot of land, on the eastern side of Chertsey Road at the northern edge of Woking Parish.

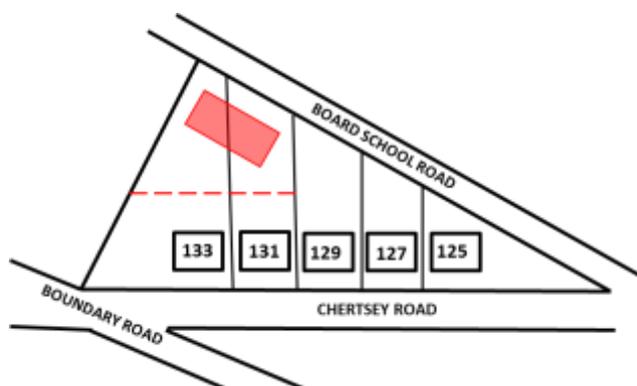


Figure 186. Plan of 125-133 Chertsey Road



Figure 187. Alfred A Gale 1841-1924

The 1881 census shows 125 and 127 as occupied, 129 was unoccupied; 131 and 133 were still being built.

In the 1960s, part of the plots of both 131 and 133 were sold for the building of the Woking Social Centre for Handicapped Children, which fronted Board School Road (shown in red on Figure 186).

125 to 129 became Pet Doctors, veterinary surgery, with interconnecting corridors added.

## No. 125 – ‘Caerleon’

No. 125 ‘Caerleon’ was built in about 1879. The first three Occupants of were all Wesleyan ministers. Then, from 1895 to 1930, a succession of occupants were private individuals. The house was then converted to a dental surgery, which it remained for forty years.

Caerleon was briefly home to Woking Car Mart, in about 1970. Then, in 1973, David Callaghan, veterinary surgeon, moved in. The building subsequently became Brookside Veterinary Centre. The partnership was acquired by Pet Doctors in 2002.

Occupants of No. 125	
1879-81	Walter Lethaby, Wesleyan minister
1882	Rev J Percy, Wesleyan minister
1885	Rev G Brett, Wesleyan minister
1888	Rev W Rapson, Wesleyan minister
1891	John Priestley, Wesleyan minister

1893-95	William Henry Ridler
1895-98	Frances A Ridler
1901	Henry Sotham
1905-08	G E de Rivaz
1911-21	Thomas Martin
1923-26	Major A C Watkins
1927-29	A Kearne
1931	H Edwards
1932-47	Bertram G Ralph-Brown
1948-54	George Sperryn-Jones
1955-69	Dental surgery (Leo Warrington)
1973-2002	David Callaghan, vet / Brookside Veterinary Centre
2002-	Pet Doctors, veterinary surgery

This house has largely survived redevelopment and is currently part of Pet Doctors, veterinary surgery, with an inter-connecting corridor to no. 127.



Figure 188. Caerleon, February 2020

### **No. 127 – ‘Lyndholme’**

No. 127 was built in about 1880 and was originally known as ‘Eden Villa’. The first occupants were George Parfitt, a baker, and his family. In the next twenty years there were a number of short duration occupants until the house was bought by Alfred Harridge (see page 113). In about 1895 the name was changed to Lyndholme.

Lyndholme was probably part of a dental practise until Alfred Harridge retired in about 1910.

From 1910 until at least the 1980s, the house was a private domestic residence. It then became part of the Brookside Veterinary Centre and later Pet Doctors.

The house has largely survived redevelopment and is still currently part of Pet Doctors, veterinary surgery, with inter-connecting corridors to No.s 125 and 129.



Figure 189. Lyndholme, February 2020

Occupants of Lyndholme	
1881	George Parfett, baker
1882-5	William J Graves
1887-8	Robert Frederick Cunningham (Wesleyan Mission)
1891	Mary Gratton
1899-1900	Reverend Frank Utterly (Wesleyan)
1905-26	Percy John Reid, dental surgeon
1927-29	H Slater
1931	Dr J Cave
1932-34	G J Swallow
1937-50	William George Lillywhite
1948-54	Herbert J Shannon
1954-61	William D H Mill
1962-68	Gwendoline L Mill
1975	Leslie W Reynolds
1981	A Razaq
1995-2002	Brookside Veterinary Centre
2002-	Pet Doctors, veterinary surgery

### No. 129 – ‘Homelea’

Homelea was built in 1880 or early 1881<sup>68</sup>. The first recorded occupant was Miss Ellen Susanna Clarke who was in residence in 1887. Ellen Clarke lived in Homelea for more than forty years, until her death in 1929. Ellen never married. She had her widowed younger sister, Clara Quinton, and her children living with her. Clara inherited the house, surviving Ellen by two years.

<sup>68</sup> Described in the 1881 census as being unoccupied

From 1932 until the 1980s, Homelea remained as a residential building. It then became part of the Brookside Veterinary Centre and later Pet Doctors.

The house has largely survived redevelopment and is still currently part of Pet Doctors, veterinary surgery, with an inter-connecting corridor to no. 127.



Figure 190. Homelea, February 2020

Occupants of Homelea	
1881	Vacant
1882-1929	Miss Ellen Susanna Clarke
1930-31	Mrs Clara Quinton
1932-34	H S Chick
1937-39	Stephen Would
1943-56	William A J Sadler
1957-68	Beatrice I Basing
1981	William G Wright
1995-2002	Brookside Veterinary Centre
2002-	Pet Doctors, veterinary surgery

### **No. 131 – ‘Kingsley’**

No. 131 ‘Kingsley’ was built in 1881<sup>69</sup>. The first occupants were sisters, Martha and Rebecca Walter, who lived there from 1882 until just before Martha’s death in 1890.

By 1894, Kingsley had been purchased by Alfred Fitch Harridge, a dental surgeon. Alfred was born 1835 in Billericay, Essex. He trained as a chemist and once qualified went on to run a ‘grocers and chemist’ in various locations in Essex. He only turned his hand to dentistry in about 1880, obtaining a Licence in Dental Surgery from the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland in 1883, aged 48.

Within ten years, Harridge had also purchased No. 125 ‘Caerleon’ and 127 ‘Eden Villa’ which, in 1905, were both occupied by dentists.

When it came time for him to retire, c1910, he moved back with his family to Canvey Island calling his home there ‘Kingsley’; he lived there until his death in 1923.

<sup>69</sup> Described in the 1881 census as being under construction

The house was then home to a succession of individuals and families, including Henry Bennett and his wife for over thirty years in the 1920 to 1950s.



Figure 191. Kingsley, February 2020

In the 1950s, following the Bennetts' occupation, the house was divided into two flats. It has survived redevelopment and is still a private residence.

Occupants of Kingsley (No. 131)	
1882-90	Misses Martha & Rebecca Walter
1890-91	Edward Mann
1894-1908	Alfred Fitch Harridge
1911-21	Charlotte French (wid)
1923-43	Henry Stephen Bennett
1948-56	Mrs Beatrice Bennett
1957-64	E G Day / Kathleen P Richards
1968	D Emms
1975	Jenkins / Muirhead / Barnel

### No. 133 – ‘Heath House’

Heath House was built in 1881<sup>70</sup>. The first recorded occupant was R Godfrey Sellick, who was followed by Robert Alexander Hume Barry.

George Henry Swan joined the Merchant Navy at the age of 15. Having got his master's certificate, he retired following the loss of his wife and daughter at sea. He remarried and lived with his second wife, Alice, at Heath House from 1888 until his death in 1912. The local paper printed an obituary describing his career.

The house remained a private residence with a succession of occupants.

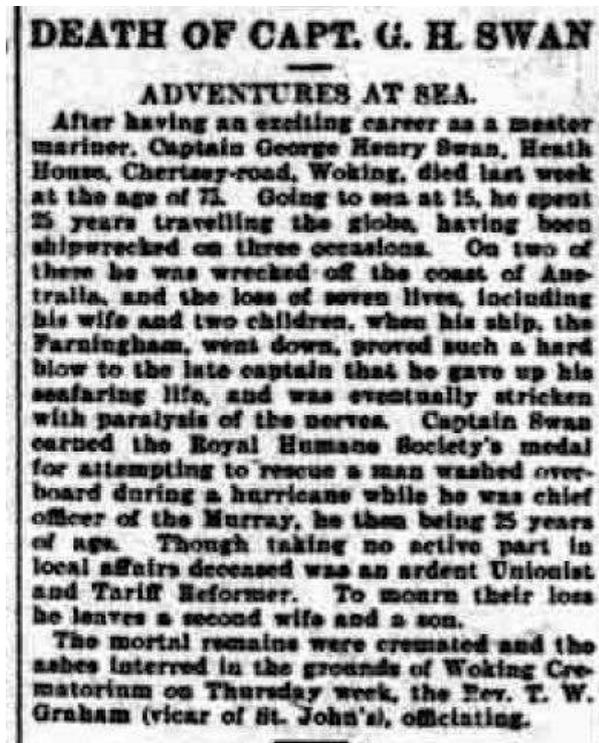


Figure 192. Obituary Captain George H Swan November 1912

<sup>70</sup> Described as being under construction in the 1881 census

Following the Second World War, the house was extended to create an apartment, numbered 135. Both 133 and 135 remain residential.

Occupants of Heath House (No. 133)	
1882	R Godfrey Sellick
1885-7	Robert Alexander Hume Barry
1888-96	Captain George Henry Swan
1900	T D Ashmore
1901	Theodore W G Wrattislan
1901-1911	Capt. George Henry Swan
1913-21	G M Osborne
1923-29	J Parry-Jones
1931-34	E Saunders
1937-48	Justin Alexander Gustav Barber
1948-56	Mrs Martha Barber
1957-64	E Roche
1968 –	L J Coley

Occupants of 135	
1948-59	Charles E Lucas
1960-64	R Champion
1968	P S North
1975	Arthur J Neal



Figure 193. Heath House, February 2020

## WEST SIDE (EVEN NUMBERS)

### No. 2

No. 2 Chertsey Road was a small addition on the north-west side of The Pavement, built in about 1900; it was known as, or part of, Albion Buildings. The first occupants were a firm of auctioneers, Lowther & Cameron.

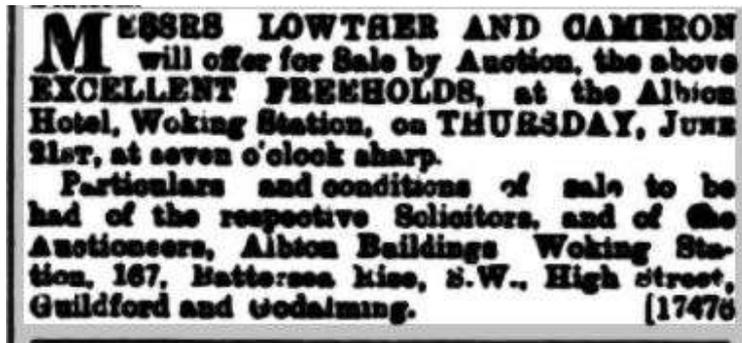


Figure 194. Advert June 1900

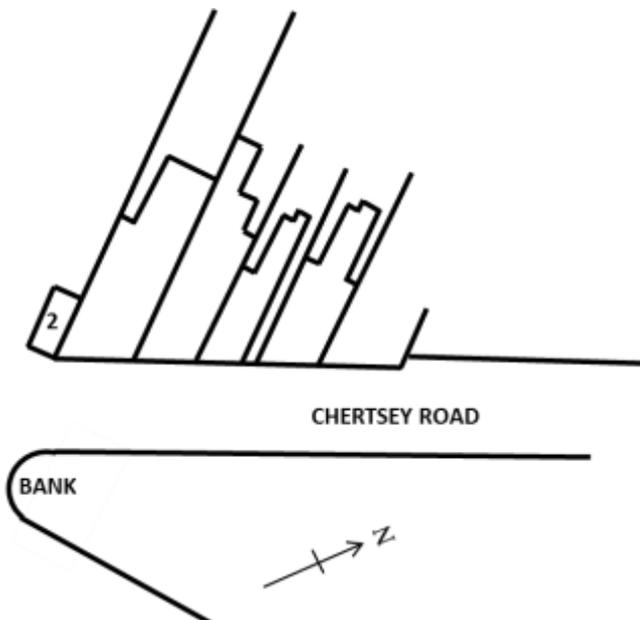


Figure 195. Plan of 2 Chertsey Road



Figure 196. Advert 1908

From 1905 to 1919 Drake & Mount, coal and coke merchants, traded out of the building.



Figure 197. Drake & Mount c1910



Figure 198. The Cigar Box 1938

In about 1920, Glosters took over Drake and Mount's coal merchant business, running it for about 5 years.

Herbert Evershed, auctioneer had the building for a few years and then it became The Cigar Box, one of Albert Pocock's tobacco outlets, for almost 30 years.

No. 2 was demolished in 1966, to allow for the construction of Albion House.

Occupants of Albion Buildings (No. 2)	
1891-96	George Henry Swan
1906-19	Drake & Mount, coal merchants
1921-25	Glosters, coal merchants, etc
1927-34	Herbert B A Evershed
1937-64	The Cigar Box (Albert Pocock)

## THE PAVEMENT

No.s 4 to 10 Chertsey Road were built in about 1891. They were known as 'The Pavement', presumably because the area outside the shop fronts was paved. In most references prior to 1910, they are listed as No.s 1-4 The Pavement.

No. 4 was demolished in about 2012, prior to the refurbishment of Albion House.

When Ivens Central Stores (see page 124) opened at No. 12, in 1894, it became known as 5 The Pavement.

No.s 6-10 are locally listed as being of Townscape Merit.

### No. 4 - 1, The Pavement

The first occupants of 1 The Pavement were Sparkes Cornelius Knight & Son, who opened a store there in April 1892. S C Knight already had a drapery and millinery store at 6-8 High Street and a ladies' boot shop at 3a High Street. In 1900, Knight moved next door to No. 2.

The London and South Western Bank established a branch in Woking, in 1901. It opened for business on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May.

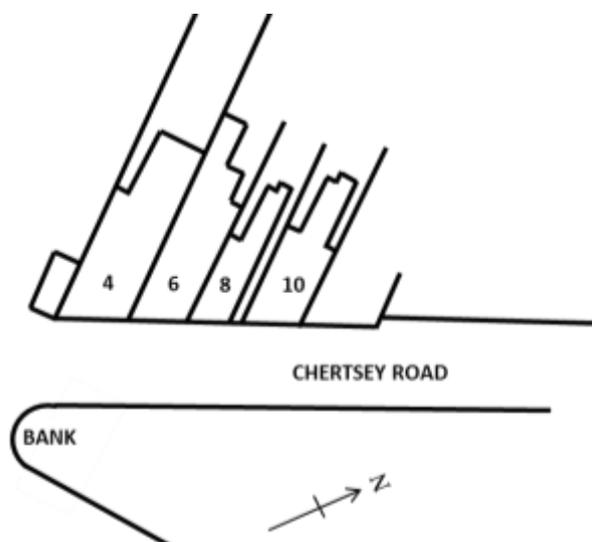


Figure 199. Plan of the Pavement

The basement and lower floor were completely rebuilt by the Woking firm of Harris & Son, to designs prepared by Mr W G Jones. The basement contained the 12ft. 6in. by 15ft. strong room.<sup>71</sup>

The exterior (Figure 200) was faced with Portland stone, set off with Tuscan columns of red Swedish granite and bases of black pearl.

The London & South Western Bank merged with the London & Provincial Bank in 1917, becoming the London Provincial and South Western Bank. This was taken over by Barclays Bank in 1918. For four years, Barclays had two branches facing each other on opposite sides of Chertsey Road. The branch at No. 4 was closed in 1922.



Figure 200. London & South Western Bank

In 1923, Tyler & Co., wine & spirits merchants, who had a shop at No. 3 Chertsey Road (see page 17), opened a second branch in No. 4, before closing the branch at No. 3 a few years later. In 1932, Tyler & Co. were awarded a royal warrant having been appointed grocers and wine merchants to the Prince of Wales.



Figure 201. Belgian chocolates boxed for Tyler



Figure 202. Tyler soda syphon

<sup>71</sup> *West Surrey Times* 1 June 1901

Tyler & Co. moved, in 1968, into unit 6 of the newly-built Albion House. By 1986, the building was occupied by Bennetts, estate agents.

No. 4 was demolished in about 2012, prior to the refurbishment of Albion House.

Occupants of No. 4	
1892-1900	S C Knight & Son, outfitters & clothiers
1901-18	London & South Western Bank
1918-22	Barclays Bank
1923-68	Tyler & Co. Ltd, wine & spirit merchants
1986-99	Bennetts, estate agents

### **No. 6 - 2, The Pavement**

2 The Pavement was first occupied in 1891 by Wenham Brothers, butchers, who moved their business from the High Street, where they had been for about fifteen years. Ten years later they vacated and were replaced by S C Knight & Son, who moved from next door (see page 117).



Figure 203. Knight's shop c.1905

Sparkes Cornelius Knight died in 1918; the business was continued by his son Sparkes Harris Knight.

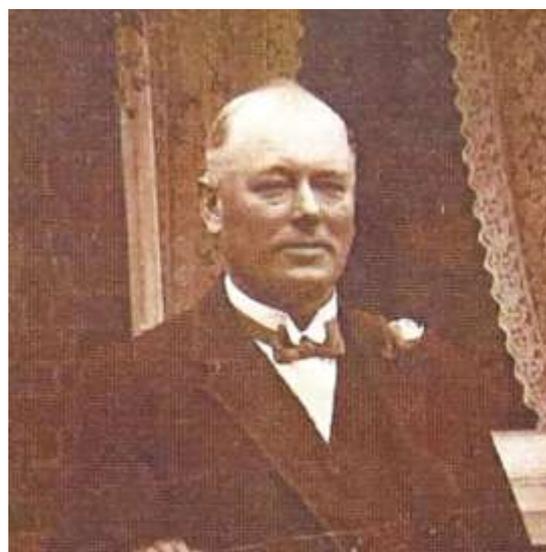


Figure 204. Sparkes Harris Knight

In about 1930, Sparkes Harris Knight retired and the building was taken on by Lasletts Ltd, outfitters. Lasletts occupied the shop for 34 years.



Figure 205. Knight invoice 1896



Figure 206. Laslett advertisement 1933

Since 1965, No. 6 has been occupied by two building societies – the Co-Op (briefly) and Nationwide (later Nationwide Anglia) - and two estate agents (Principal and Leaders).

On 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015 Yozen opened was opened by Kash Shahin (who also owned Cream's at No. 15), offering fat-free and low-calorie frozen yogurt, waffles and warm desserts.



Figure 207. Principal 1999



Figure 208. Leaders 2008



Figure 209. Yozen 2015

No. 6 is currently home to Trumps laundry and dry cleaners.

Occupants of No. 6	
1891-1900	John Wenham / Wenham Bro.s, butchers
1901-1929	S C Knight & Son, outfitters & clothiers
1931-64	Lasletts Ltd, outfitters
1968	Co-Op Building Society
1970-91	Nationwide / Nationwide Anglia Building Society
1995-2006	Principal, estate agents
2007-14	Leaders, estate agents
2015-16	YoZen, frozen yoghurt
2017-	Trumps, laundry, dry cleaners



Figure 210. Trumps 2020

### No. 8 - 3, The Pavement

The first occupant of 3 The Pavement was Mrs Alice Gunning who ran a 'fancy repository' up until 1900. In 1901, Frank Blomfield of Guildford took over the shop and, for twenty years, had a 'fancy stationers' there. Frank Blomfield also published a number of postcards of Woking.

From 1923 to 1978, the building was occupied by the Woking branch of Midland Bank.

#### Midland Bank

Midland Bank Plc was one of the 'big four' banking groups in the United Kingdom for most of the 20th century. It is now part of HSBC.

The bank was founded as the Birmingham and Midland Bank in Union Street, Birmingham, in August 1836. It expanded in the Midlands, absorbing many local banks, and merged with the Central Bank of London Ltd in 1891, becoming the London City and Midland Bank.

After a period of nationwide expansion, including the acquisition of many smaller banks, the name Midland Bank Ltd was adopted in 1923.

It was taken over by HSBC Holdings plc, in June 1992; HSBC phased out the Midland Bank name in favour of HSBC Bank.

Midland Bank moved to Commercial Way, in 1978. Taylor & Co., solicitors, took up residence in the early 1980s. Taylor & Co. were succeeded by Fulchers, solicitors, in about 1997/8.

Since July 2016, the building has been home to Treatz Ultimate Dessert Parlour.



Figure 211. Fulchers 2014



Figure 212. Ultimate Dessert Parlour Company 2020

Occupants of No. 8	
1895-1900	Mrs Alice Gunning
1901-21	Frank Blomfield, fancy stationer
1923-78	Midland Bank
1987-95	Taylor & Co., solicitors
1998-2015	Fulchers, solicitors
2016-	Treatz, Ultimate Dessert Parlour

## No. 10 - 4, The Pavement

The first known occupant of No. 4 The Pavement was Charles Conyer; other than being listed in the electoral rolls for 1896, 1897 and 1898<sup>72</sup>, he is a complete mystery. It was probably a private house at this time.



Figure 213. Pullinger's shop

In 1900 Frederick Pullinger opened his restaurant, bakery and confectionery in the shop. He had already had a bakery and confectionery in Chobham Road for the previous ten years.



Figure 214. Pullinger's restaurant

Pullinger's was a landmark in Chertsey Road for the next sixty-eight years. When it finally closed, it was succeeded, in 1969, by Acres the Bakers.

A large blue and white advertisement for 'THE TRADING PLACE'. The text includes: '10 CHERTSEY ROAD, WOKING GU21 5AB', 'TEL: 01483 722430', 'www.tradingplacewoking.co.uk', 'OPEN TUESDAY TO SATURDAY', 'CASH PAID', 'For your unwanted goods, jewellery, TV's, VCR's &amp; Audio Equipment, Computers, Games Consoles etc.', 'A GOOD RANGE OF JEWELLERY AND ELECTRICAL GOODS ALWAYS AVAILABLE', 'CHEQUES CASHED', '£3 off', 'First Transaction with this ad', and a list of services: 'Wages', 'Tax Refunds', 'Insurance Claims', 'Housing Benefit', 'Most business cheques cashed on the spot', 'Pay Day Advances against Cheque Card'. At the bottom, it says 'Proof of Identity required &amp; fees payable. Details on request'.

Figure 215. Trading Place Ad



Figure 216. Bizzi B's Biltong 2008

<sup>72</sup> Surrey Electoral Registers, Surrey History Centre, CC802/7-9

No. 10 Chertsey Road has since seen Supasnaps, the Trading Place, and a South African delicatessen all come and go. From 2013 to the current day, it has been the home of Sopranos, barber shop.

Occupants of No. 10	
1896-98	Charles Conyer
1900-68	Frederick Pullinger Ltd, restaurant, bakers & confectioners
1969-73	Acres the Bakers (Light Bite café)
1974-79	Parslows (of Reading), bakers
1981-86	Supasnaps
1987-90	Robins Olivey, solicitors
1995	<i>Vacant</i>
1998-2005	The Trading Place
2008-12	Bizzi B's Biltong & SA Specialities
2013-20	Sopranos



Figure 217. No. 10 Chertsey Road 2020

## **No. 12**

No. 12 was built in about 1893/4. Being adjacent to No. 4 The Pavement, it was sometimes referred to as No. 5 The Pavement. The first occupant was Richard Ivens's Central Store.

Richard Ivens was born in 1863, in Maidstone, Kent, the son of a commercial traveller.

Richard married in 1890; he and his wife, Susanna, moved to Woking. In the 1891 census Richard was living in Church Street and was employed as a grocer's assistant.

By 1894, Richard had taken out a lease on what was then known as No. 5 The Pavement<sup>73</sup>, and was proprietor of the Central Stores.



Figure 218. Ivens' Advertisement 1908



Figure 219. Ivens' Central Stores

Richard Ivens retired in about 1905 and the Central Stores were taken over by Percy Williamson and Jabez Paul Thompson, both of Gravesend, Kent.

Jabez Thompson died in 1948 and his son Norris Paul Thompson became a partner.

Central Stores provided a range of exotic goods in addition to the normal range of groceries (see Figure 220 ).



Figure 220. Advertisement 1960

Percy Williamson died in 1960 and the Central Stores closed in about 1968; the building became an International grocery store.

<sup>73</sup> Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962





Figure 223. Heavens Above menu

Since 2010, the pub has had a variety of owners and names, including just 6 months as Soda & Rye.

The pub closed in April 2019 following the revocation of its licence. In August 2019 a planning application to convert the pub to a takeaway was submitted; in November, the building was sold for £1,000,000.



Figure 224. The Old Stillage



Figure 225. Rosie O'Grady's



Figure 226. The Station



Figure 227. Soda & Rye

Occupants of No. 12	
1894-1904	Ivens Stores, grocery, ironmongery and provision merchants
1905-68	Central Stores (Williamson & Thompson), grocers & provision merchants
1972-75	International Stores
1979-84	Tristin's Wine Bar
1984-91	The Old Stillage
1992-2008	Rosie O'Grady's
2009 - Aug 2015	The Station
Aug 2015-Feb 2016	Soda & Rye
2016-19	The Pound



Figure 228. The Pound 2020

## No. 14

Henry William Gloster was one of early Woking's most significant figures in terms of both commerce and local governance.

He moved his business from Penge, in 1876, opening a shop in Chobham Road, opposite the Red House. In 1887 he bought the adjacent plot of land; on it, facing onto Chertsey Road, he built his Corn Exchange, which opened in 1889.



Figure 229. Glosters Stores

By 1887, there was also a branch store at St John's, situated in Hermitage Road, near the canal bridge.

It was not long before Gloster required even more space and, in about 1893, he expanded next door into No. 16.

A vintage advertisement for Glosters Ltd, featuring a decorative border with a tree, birds, and a vase. The central text lists four departments: Human Food, Corn, Fuel, and Garden, along with their respective products and the company's address and telephone number.

<b>GLOSTERS LTD</b>	
<b>HUMAN FOOD DEPARTMENT</b> Flour, Oatmeal, Cereals, Breakfast Foods, Green Peas, Butter Beans, Rices and Canned Goods.	<b>CORN DEPARTMENT</b> Corn, Forage, Meals, Cattle Foods, Poultry and Dog Foods, Pigeon Foods, Bird Seed.
<b>FUEL DEPARTMENT</b> Coal, Coke, Anthracite, Coalite, Ovoids, Boiler Nuts, Peat, Oak Logs, Firelighters, "Aga" Fuel.	<b>GARDEN DEPARTMENT</b> Garden Seeds, Bulbs, Roses, Fruit Trees, Bedding Plants, Fertilisers, Artistic Fencing, Summer Houses, Seats, Pergolas.
<b>14 &amp; 16 CHERTSEY ROAD WOKING</b> <b>TELEPHONE 1234 WOKING</b>	

Figure 230. Glosters Advertisement from 1934

Henry William Gloster had eight sons from his two marriages. One died as a child, but six of the other seven went into the family business. By the time Henry died in 1908, his sons were running the business. It was carried on

until the death of the last surviving son, Daniel, in 1947; the business was then wound up by the executors. The store closed in about 1959.

The building, along with No. 16, was demolished and replaced with the current 1960s box-like building, named Railway House.

Occupants of No. 14	
1889-1959	Corn Exchange, H W Gloster & Sons, corn & seed merchants
1961-78	G C Batemans, opticians / Contessa, lingerie
1979-97	G C Batemans, opticians
2008-	Mail Boxes Etc.



Figure 231. Mail Boxes Etc 2020

## No. 16

After Glosters Corn/Grocery Exchange (see page 129) closed, the building, along with No. 14, was demolished and replaced with the current 1960s box-like construction, Railway House.

The first occupant of the new No. 16 was John Farmer Shoe Co., from 1957 until about 1975.

From 1979, until 2008, the building was home to Lindsay Fabrics.

Since 2008, No. 16 has been occupied by Costcutter discount store.



Figure 232. Lindsay Fabrics 1986

Occupants of No.16	
c1893-1959	H W Gloster & Sons, corn & seed merchants
1964-74	John Farmer Shoe Co.
1979-2008	Lindsay Fabrics
2008-20	Costcutter



Figure 233. Costcutter 2020

## No. 18

No. 18 Chertsey Road was built in about 1903, filling the gap between Gloster's Corn Exchange and The Quadrant. The first known occupant was William Charles Burrows, grocer.

William Burrows moved to Woking, from Lewisham, in 1886; he is recorded as living in Chertsey Road<sup>74</sup>. He was presumably learning his trade in the grocery business as, in 1890, he moved to Bagshot and there established the South Western Stores in the High Street.

By 1904,<sup>75</sup> William had opened a shop in Woking, at No. 18 Chertsey Road; but, by 1907,<sup>75</sup> he had sold the shop to Robert Wasley.

In the 1908 directory, Robert Wasley is described as 'ham, beef and provision merchant' but, by 1910 had converted the shop to a fishmonger's.

In 1920, the shop was taken over by Mac Fisheries. Mac Fisheries was a branded United Kingdom retail chain of fishmongers, founded by William Lever, 1st Viscount Leverhulme.



Figure 234. Mac Fisheries

### Mac Fisheries

In his thirties, Lord Leverhulme had fallen in love with the Western Isles of Scotland. In May 1918 at the age of 66, he bought the Isle of Lewis for £167,000. Convinced that he could resurrect the fishing industry, he set about investing in all aspects of the supporting industries and supply/distribution chain.<sup>76</sup>

Leverhulme's plan was to build an ice-making plant in Stornoway, building refrigerated cargo ships to take fish to a depot at Fleetwood, where he would build herring-curing facilities, a canning factory and a plant installed to make fish cakes, fish paste, glue, animal feed and fertiliser. To create a market for the fish, he started buying up independent fishmongers throughout Britain, rebranding them Mac Fisheries.

In 1919, servicemen demobilised from World War I and promised land, started occupying plots on the Isle of Lewis. Leverhulme protested and took legal action against whom he considered squatters, but the Scottish Office took the side of the ex-servicemen, leaving his plan in tatters. In 1919 William Leverhulme purchased the South Harris estate, which took in the Obbe, from the Earl of Dunmore for the sum of £36,000. He planned to turn Obbe into a major fishing centre.

Economic decline in 1920-21 and financial problems in Lever Brothers' global empire meant

<sup>74</sup> *Surrey Electoral Registers, 1832-1962*

<sup>75</sup> *Woking Yearbook and Directory 1905/1908*

<sup>76</sup> <https://web.archive.org/web/20161019054149/http://www.macfisheries.co.uk/index.htm>

the project was delayed. In September 1923 Lever announced that he intended to leave the island. At the same time, he offered to gift all the crofters the freehold of their land, and to hand over the rest of the island to district trusts. But by now mistrust ran very deep, and the Highland Land League representing the crofters and all the district councils (with the exception of Stornoway) turned down the offer, and so the islands were sold, once again, to absentee landlords. On 7th May 1925, Lord, Leverhulme died.

In 1972, Mac Fisheries closed and the shop was taken over by Barbers art gallery and picture framing. Barbers traded there until 2018, since when the shop has been home to Doner Kebab.



Figure 235. Barbers Gallery 2018

Occupants of No. 18	
1904-05	William Charles Burrows, grocer
1907-20	Robert Wasley, fishmonger
1921-72	Mac Fisheries
1972-2018	Barbers, gallery and framing
2018-	Doner Kebab



Figure 236. Doner Kebab 2020

## THE QUADRANT

The name The Quadrant may have originally referred to the approximately quadrant-shaped piece of land which included No.s 14-24 Chertsey Road and No.s 1 & 3 Chobham Road.

As different developers bought different plots and built on them, the name became used for No.s 20-24 Chertsey Road only. These were built in 1898, owned by a Mrs Daws, and, until about 1910, were known as 1-3 The Quadrant. They are locally listed as being of Architectural or Historic Merit.

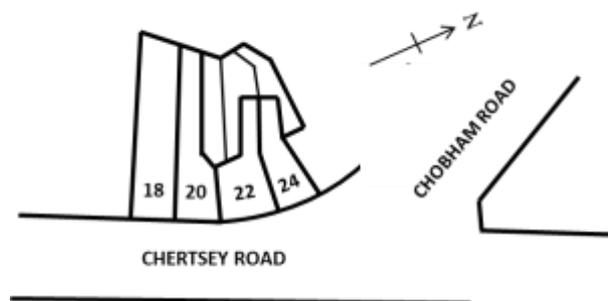


Figure 237. Plan of the Quadrant

## No. 20 - 1, The Quadrant

Thomas Ashby, son of the Thomas who started Ashby's Bank in Staines (see page 14), started a brewery in Staines in 1805. His grandsons, Morris and Henry John, eventually took over the brewery, trading as M & H J Ashby. Morris's son, Francis, opened an off-licence retail outlet in Woking at 1 The Quadrant in 1899.

During the first World War, the off-licence closed and the shop was taken over by The Sports House (seen directly behind the Mac Fisheries van in Figure 238).



Figure 238. Sports House c1930

The Sports House moved, in 1934, from Chertsey Road to The Dome at 42 Commercial Road.

### Woking Autocar Company

Francis 'Frank' Derry was born, in Islington, on 7 April 1869, the son of a builder.

In 1891, aged 21, he was living with his parents in Lambeth and is described in the census as a clerk.

In 1901, aged 31, he was living, with his wife and two children, in 'The Retreat' Guildford Road, Woking. In the census he is described as a publisher and employer.

In 1911, aged 41, now with his wife and three children, he was living in 'Bridge House' 102 Chertsey Road, Woking. In the census he is described as an advertising agent, working on his own account.

In 1913, Frank started trading as the Woking Autocar Company, out of No.s 89-93 Chertsey Road. By 1918, he also had the Sports House at No. 20 Chertsey Road.

**Woking Autocar Co. Limited, motor engineers & agents;  
garage, repairs &c.; offices & works, 89, 91 & 93 Chertsey  
road (T N 336); sports & games house, 20 Chertsey road.  
See advertisement page 105**

By 1920, the motoring side of the business at 89-93 Chertsey Road had been closed and the premises taken over by the Brookwood Motor Company.

The Sports House moved, in 1934, from Chertsey Road to The Dome at 42 Commercial Road. The Chertsey Road premises then traded for a few years as Radio House.

Francis Derry moved away from Woking in 1941. He died on 18 December 1951 at Eastbourne, Sussex. He was 82.

On 26th October 1953 an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Woking Autocar Co. Ltd was held. It passed a resolution that the company be voluntarily wound up and appointed Mr C H S Lewis, chartered accountant, of London to be the liquidator.<sup>77</sup>



Figure 239. Sports House advertisement

By 1943, Fords Ltd, house furnishers had occupied No. 20. Fords traded there for over twenty years. They were succeeded by Helene, ladies' fashion.

From the mid-1970s until the turn of the century, the building was occupied by The Spastics Shop (later Scope) charity shop.

The building was then a pizza house and, since 2017, has been the Thai Table, Asian restaurant.

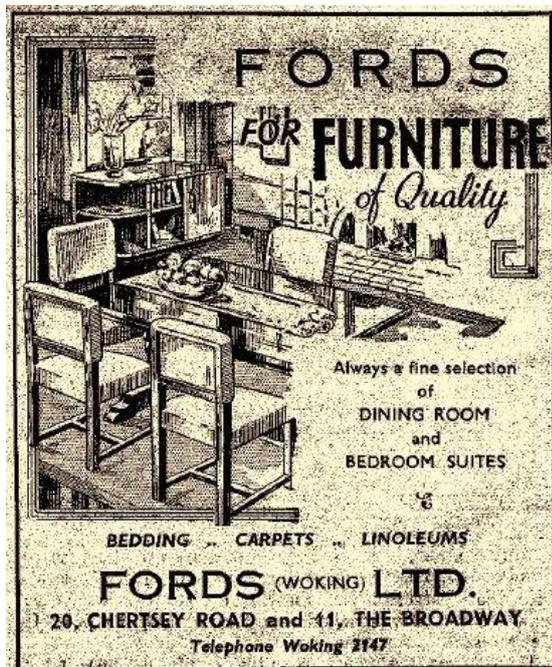


Figure 240. Fords advertisement 1954



Figure 241. Helene

<sup>77</sup> London Gazette 6 November 1953



Figure 242. Spastics Shop 1986



Figure 243. M2 2008

Occupants of No. 20	
1899-13	M & H J Ashby, wine & spirit merchants
1918-34	The Sports House
1936	<i>vacant</i>
1937	Woking Autocar Company
1943-64	Fords (Woking) Ltd, house furnishers
1967-75	Helene, ladies' fashion
1977-99	The Spastics Shop/Scope
2004-16	M2 Pizza Pasta
2017-20	Thai Table, restaurant



Figure 244. Thai Table 2020

## No. 22 - 2, The Quadrant

George John Gaskell and John Harry Anderson opened the Cloth Hall in 2 The Quadrant, in 1901.

In 1907, John Anderson died; he was 31. George Gaskell (who was then 59) sold the business and moved to Acton.

The Cloth Hall was taken over, in 1907, by Edward Adeane Edwards and his wife Lizzie Rebecca, who ran it for over twenty years. In Figure 245, the Cloth Hall is the shop with the open blind, beyond the van.



Figure 245. Cloth Hall



Figure 246. 1927 Trade Fair

Henry Stephen Bennett succeeded the Cloth Hall sometime during the second World War, but by 1943. A gentlemen's outfitter, he traded as H S Bennett, for around twenty years, until his death in 1956.

In the mid-1960s, Robinson's took over the shop, for a few years whilst they demolished and rebuilt across the road (see page 30).

Records between 1970 and 2010 are patchy; No. 22 had a number of short-lived occupancies by different firms. Since 2017, the shop has been home to Headcase, barbers.

## MEN'S AND BOYS' OUTFITTERS

WE have an excellent stock of tastefully selected goods. Impeccable styling. Quality and Value outstanding.

YOU AND YOUR SON WILL BE BETTER DRESSED WHEN YOUR CLOTHES ARE BOUGHT FROM A SHOP THAT SPECIALISES IN YOUR NEEDS.

PHONE: WOKING 2785

**H.S. Bennett**  
22 CHERTSEY ROAD, WOKING

Figure 247. H S Bennett advertisement 1956



Figure 248. GEBA and Woking Cobbler 1986

## DOMESTIC APPLIANCE CENTRE



**SIEMENS**



**BOSCH**

**Creda**

**Hotpoint**

STOVES **ESTABLISHED 1920**

**ZANUSSI**

Washing Machines  
Fridges  
Freezers  
Microwaves

Specialist in built-in appliances and all small electrical appliances.

**SALES AND SERVICE**  
*Quality Appliances At Affordable Prices*

(01483) 771456/  
724678

22 Chertsey Road, Woking

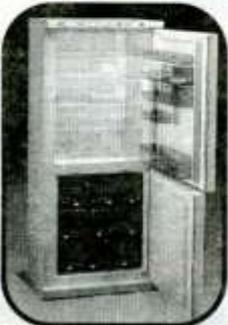


Figure 249. DAC advertisement 1997



Figure 250. Turner Hampton 2008



Figure 251. Libra 2014

Occupants of No. 22	
1901-06	The Cloth Hall, Anderson & Gaskell, hosiers & outfitters
1907-38	The Cloth Hall, E A & L R Edwards, hosiers & outfitters
1943-57	H S Bennett, men's outfitter
1964	Robinsons, drapers
1968-72	Maynards, confectioners
1985-90	Woking Cobbler
1995-97	Mister Minute
1997	Domestic Appliance Centre
2001-12	Turner Hampton, Solicitors & Tax advisors
2012-16	Libra, estate agents
2017-20	Headcase, barbers



Figure 252. Headcase Barbershops 2020

### No. 24 - 3, The Quadrant

Timothy White started a ships' chandlers and general store in Portsmouth, in 1848. White himself qualified as a pharmacist in 1869.<sup>78</sup> A branch was opened in Woking in 1899.

In 1935, Timothy Whites merged with Taylors Drug Co. Ltd. to form Timothy Whites & Taylors; the shops themselves were named either simply "Timothy Whites" or "Timothy Whites & Taylors". The company was taken over by Boots Pure Drug Co. in 1968. Immediately before the takeover, there were 614 Timothy Whites shops, which had had a combined turnover of approximately £33m in the year before the acquisition. As a result of the rationalisation that followed the takeover, Boots rebranded and absorbed the pharmaceutical side of the business, leaving Timothy Whites with just 196 shops that sold only housewares. The Timothy Whites name eventually disappeared in 1985. After the departure of Timothy Whites, No. 24 was home to a succession of short-lived businesses.

Brighter Homes and Crown Decorations, in the 1950s and 1960s, were followed by Rainbow stationers, in the 1970s; next came the Woking Kitchen Centre and, for the whole of the 1980s, GEBA Kitchen Studio (see Figure 248).



Figure 253. GEBA advertisement 1987

In about 1990, the building was occupied by a pizza parlour, Pizzamore. No. 24 has been home to (part of) Nando's since 1999.

Occupants of No. 24	
1901-59	Timothy Whites
1961-64	Brighter Homes, decorating supplies
1967-72	Crown Decorations
1973	Rainbow, stationers
1979	Woking Kitchen Centre
1981-89	GEBA Kitchen Studio
1991-95	Pizzamore
1999-	Nando's

<sup>78</sup> L Richmond, J Stevenson, A Turton, *The Pharmaceutical Industry: A Guide to Historical Records*, 2002



Figure 254. Nando's 2020

## THE RED HOUSE

The Red House Hotel was first built in 1869, at a cost of £690. It was then actually in Chobham Road, towards which its entrance faced. In 1871 the owner/proprietor was Ellis Spenceley. From 1874, until his death in July 1888, the proprietor was Charles Wright. During this period, the hotel was a venue for auctions, meetings and coroner's inquests.

The Red House was enlarged in 1896 by the addition of a saloon bar, a coffee room and a billiard room. The architect was Robert Clamp of Woking<sup>79</sup>.

This resulted in the entrance of the hotel fronting onto the junction of Chobham Road and Chertsey Road; the hotel gained a 26 Chertsey Road address when the road was renumbered in c1910.



Figure 255. The Red House Hotel 1898

<sup>79</sup> *The Building News* 27 March & 25 September 1896

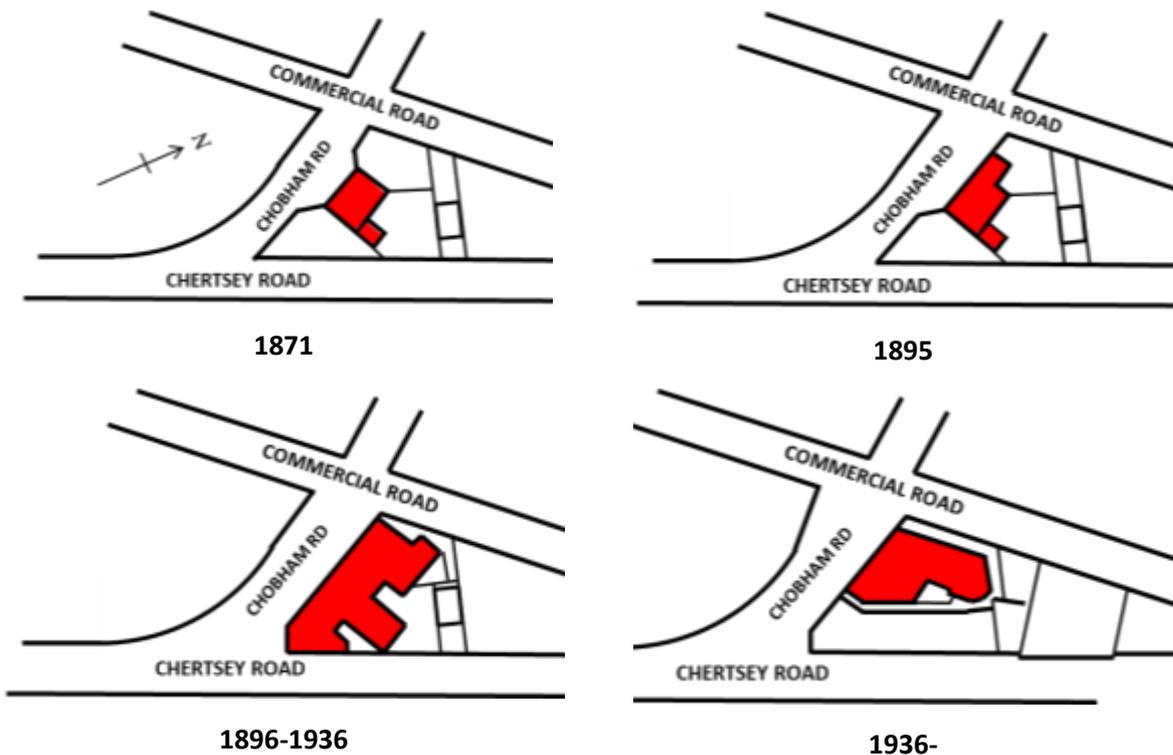


Figure 256. The changing footprint of the Red House

The Red House Hotel was demolished in 1936 and a new Red House public house built on the corner of Chobham Road and Commercial Road. A new building on the corner of Chertsey Road and Chobham Road was occupied by Burton's, tailors.

**No.s 24a-d**

Following the demolition and rebuilding of the Red House Hotel in 1936, Montague Burton built a store on the site of the old hotel, with a neo-Georgian design.

The company's in-house architects department was set up around 1932 under Harry Wilson, who was responsible for developing Burton's house style.<sup>80</sup>



Figure 257. Burton's shop

<sup>80</sup> Montague Burton liked the first floors of his buildings to be used as temperance billiard halls. The space was designed with this in mind. Six-inch concrete floors were covered in wood block, and independent access was provided to one side of Burton's shop.

## Burton

The founder of Burton, Meshe David Osinsky (1885-1952), emigrated in 1900, from the province of Kovno (modern Lithuania), to England where he initially took the name Maurice, Burton. By 1904, he was running a small outfitter's shop in Chesterfield.

Burton was excused military service during the Great War and in 1916 won a lucrative contract to manufacture uniforms. A year later, the firm was transformed into a limited liability company called Montague Burton, The Tailor of Taste Ltd. The man himself now assumed the name Montague Maurice Burton. By 1919 he had 36 shops, of which many had opened during the course of the war.

Growth did not stop with the Armistice. The demand for demob suits enabled Burton to take over the vast Hudson Road Mills in Leeds from the wholesale clothiers Albrecht & Albrecht.

The chain of shops expanded rapidly. There were 36 in 1919 and 200 in 1923. When the company went public, with capital of £4 million in 1929, it had 293 shops.

Montague Burton died in 1952.

The company expanded by take-overs of and mergers with:

- 1954 – Jackson the Tailor
- 1979 – Dorothy Perkins
- 1984 – Harry Fenton
- 1985 – Debenhams
- 1986 – John Collier

In 1998 the company split from Debenhams; Burtons became a brand name, and the group name became Arcadia Group.

Philip Green purchased the company in 2002. In July 2020, Arcadia Group, had been hit hard by the COVID-19 lockdown; as financial difficulties worsened, Arcadia entered administration on 30 November 2020.



Figure 258. Currys 1986



Figure 259. Les Smith 1999

Burtons closed in 1976 and Currys, the electrical retailers, moved from their shop in the High Street into No. 24a. In about 1998, Currys relocated again to the Lion Retail Park in Oriental Road.

The Les Smith Car and Cycle Supermarket replaced Currys. In June 2003, the Les Smith group went into receivership.

Since the mid-2000s, the building has been home to Ladbrokes, bookmakers. In the mid-1980s, 24a was renumbered as 26. No. 26 is locally listed as being of Townscape Merit.

Occupants of 24a/26	
1936-75	Burton's, outfitters
1976-97	Currys Electrical
1999-2003	Les Smith Car & Cycle Supermarket
2004-	Ladbrokes



Figure 260. Ladbrokes 2020

### No. 24b

Following the demolition and rebuilding of the Red House Hotel in 1936, three new retail units were erected, in addition to Burton's; these were designated as 24b, 24c & 24d.



Figure 261. Heaters 2008



Figure 262. Vape 360 2020

The first occupant of 24b was Finlay & Co., tobacconists, from probably 1937 until 1968. There then followed a variety of businesses; mainly short-term tenants, although Roll Basket, sandwich shop, was present for over 15 years.

In the mid-1980s, 24b was renumbered as 28. In December 2020, Phone Solutions replaced Vape 360.

Occupants of 24b/28	
1943-72	Finlay & Co., tobacconists
1985-86	Cazatou Craft Shop
1987-91	Sheila Gruselle, employment agency
1995-2009	Roll Basket
2009-12	Heaters Bakery
2017-20	Vape 360
2020-	Phone Solutions



Figure 263. Phone Solutions

### No. 24c

Following the demolition and rebuilding of the Red House Hotel in 1936, three new retail units were erected, in addition to Burton's; these were designated as 24b, 24c & 24d.

The first occupant of 24c was Tesco<sup>81</sup> Stores Ltd. This was a traditional grocery store, where customers were served by the staff. It was the first Tesco store in Woking.

Tesco moved to new premises in Commercial Road, in 1961, opening Woking's first self-service supermarket (these premises would later be incorporated into Chertsey



Figure 264. Tesco c.1950

<sup>81</sup> The Tesco brand first appeared in 1924. The name came about after Jack Cohen bought a shipment of tea from Thomas Edward Stockwell. He made new labels using the initials of the supplier's name (TES), and the first two letters of his surname (CO), forming the word TESCO.

Road, following the building of the Fine Fare supermarket and H G Wells Suite, in the mid-1970s).



Figure 265. Visionhire advertisement

well have been another occupant during 1977-80).

In the mid-1980s, 24c was renumbered as 30.

Mays Partnership was replaced, in 1989, by General Accident Property Services (GAPS), who also occupied No. 32 (formerly 24d).

After Tesco's departure, the shop was occupied by Visionhire. Visionhire was one of a number of television rental companies that sprang up in the 1950s<sup>82</sup>. They came about because televisions in the 1950s were expensive and very unreliable, so it was better to rent than buy. These firms flourished in the 1960s to 1980s.

Visionhire traded from the building until 1968, when they moved to Albion House. Horstmanns, opticians, then had a brief occupation, before being replaced, in 1972, by Crown Decorations (who moved there from No. 24). They closed in 1976/7.

Mays Partnership, estate agents, took over the premises in 1981 (there may

<sup>82</sup> Others included DER, Grenada, Radio Rentals and Rentaset



Figure 266. Cotton Homes

In October 2005, Cotton Homes found a new home here after being in the High Street for six months. A story appeared in the local press extolling its success; it was gone by 2008.

In 2008, Pablo's, barbers, was replaced by G&S, barbers.



Figure 267. G&S Barbers 2008

Since at least as early as 2012, Chaley Hair & Beauty has been occupying the shop.

Occupants of 24c/30	
1943-61	Tesco
1961-68	Visionhire (Great Britain) Ltd, TV rentals
1970-72	Horstmanns, opticians
1972-76	Crown Decorations
1981-87	Mays Partnership, estate agents
1990-99	General Accident Property Services, estate agents
2005	Cotton Homes
2008	Pablo's, barbers
2008-09	G&S, barbers
2012-	Chaley Ltd Hair & Beauty



Figure 268. Chaley Ltd 2020  
Entrance to Cohen Corkery (on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor) is through the left-hand door

## No. 24d

Following the demolition and rebuilding of the Red House Hotel in 1936, three new retail units were built, in addition to Burtons; these were designated as 24b, 24c & 24d.

The first occupant of 24d was Fletchers greengrocers, who traded there until 1948, when they were succeeded by F Myers Ltd.

Myers occupied the building for almost 25 years. In 1972 Benjamin Lee & Sons, who had a fruiterer's at No. 38 (see page 166), took over the shop.

The first personal, or home, computers were introduced in 1975, and came as kits. The young industry exploded in 1977 as Apple introduced the Apple II; Radio Shack rolled out the TRS-80 to its stores; Commodore launched its PET<sup>83</sup>. All this was happening in the United States.

Petalect was one of the first retailers of personal computers in the UK, opening a store at 24d Chertsey Road in 1979.

<sup>83</sup> The PET was named in part for the pet rock fad, which lasted about six months in the US during 1975. Silly as it sounds, 1.5 million pet rocks were sold during that period for \$4.00 each, making their creator a millionaire. Officially, P.E.T. stood for Personal Electronic Transactor.

**WHY BUY A MICRO-COMPUTER FROM**  
**PETALECT ELECTRONIC**  
**SERVICING LTD.**

**BECAUSE**

- 1) Established company trading since 1971
- 2) Electronic servicing is our speciality
- 3) We have in house programmers / systems analysts
- 4) We have our own service engineers
- 5) We will demonstrate the PET at your premises
- 6) We can customise the PET to your requirements
- 7) We can arrange finance
- 8) We offer, after the three-month warranty, a service contract from £89.50
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8K £550.00 + VAT  
 16K £675.00 + VAT  
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New Large Keyboard 'PETS' Now in Stock

**Also available:**  
 24K Memory Expansion Boards (disk-compatible), only £320 + VAT  
 PET-compatible dual floppy disk unit with advanced operating system, only £840 + VAT  
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If you require any more information or demonstration regarding the PET 2001/8 or any associated equipment, programs, etc., please contact Mr. P. J. A. Watts or Mr. D. W. Randall at:

**PETALECT ELECTRONIC SERVICES LTD**  
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All 'PETS' sold with a Basic Tutorial Tape in our showroom we sell Books, Programs, etc.

Shop at:  
**PETALECT**  
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 Tel. Woking 20727 / 23637

WW-089 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

Figure 269. Petalect advertisement 1979

In the mid-1980s, 24d was renumbered as 32.

Since at least as early as 2008, Nail Fantasy has been occupying the shop.



Figure 270. Nail Fantasy 2020

Occupants of 24d/32	
1943-48	Fletchers, greengrocers
1949-72	Meyers (Myers F Ltd), greengrocers
1972-79	Benjamin Lee, florist
1979-82	Petalect Electronic Services (Computer Sales)
1987-89	Computafone
1989-99	General Accident Property Services, estate agents
2008-	Nail Fantasy

## No. 26

Following its enlargement in 1896, the Red House Hotel fronted onto Chertsey Road. In about 1910, it was given the address No. 26 Chertsey Road.

From its first construction and until its demolition and rebuilding in 1936, there was a row of buildings to its north-east which belonged to or were associated with it (see Figure 256). These no doubt included stables for the hotel and also at various times are recorded as being occupied by smiths and wheelwrights. These may have been employed directly by the hotel or may have been freelance. One or more of the buildings may have been rented out. In early 20<sup>th</sup> century censuses and directories, the Red House Hotel and what later became No. 26 are listed separately.

No. 26 is pictured, in 1911, in Figure 272 - the single-storied pitched-roof building with the 'stables' sign on it.

Following the demolition and rebuilding of the Red House Hotel (once again facing onto Chobham Road), in 1936, the previously un-numbered unit (marked '26' in Figure 271) was given the number 26 (although not until 1951).

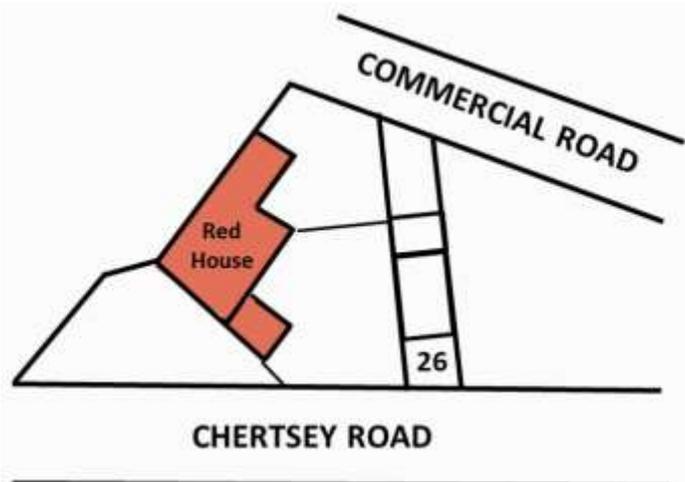


Figure 271. Plan of No. 26 c.1870



Figure 272. Gateway to Red House stables; No. 26

In about 1909/10 William Barnett Bayliss, greengrocer, briefly occupied the shop, before moving to No. 3 Chobham Road.

Between the end of the first world war and 1920, Robert Wasley made No. 26 his fourth shop in Chertsey Road (already having 18, 42 and 43). He was apparently sharing the premises with Eastman Ltd, dyers and cleaners. In 1923, he expanded into No. 28, next door.

When Asda was converted into The Planets in 1993, No. 26 was demolished; on the site, now part of the Big Apple complex, is a lock-storage area.

Occupants of No. 26	
1882-1885	Charles Wright (proprietor of Red House Hotel)
1891-1900	Charles Wheatley, smith
1901-06	Edwin Bond, wheelwright
1910-11	William Barnett Bayliss, greengrocer
1911-20	<i>Unknown</i>
1920-30	Robert Wasley, butcher / Eastman, dyers
1931-48	John Eighteen, fishmongers
1954-64	Fairbanks, ladies' fashion
1967-91	Foster Brothers, outfitters



Figure 273. Lock-up storage on site of No. 26

## No.s 28-34

Between the Red House and the triangle of land at the junction of Chertsey Road with Commercial Road, a number of buildings were erected between 1880 and 1910. These would be No.s 28-34, from the 1910 renumbering. No.s 30, 30a, 32 and 34 all appear on the 1895 Ordnance Survey plan. No. 28 seems to have been built around 1910.

No.s 28-34 were demolished in about 1975 for the building of the Fine Fare superstore which blocked off the eastern end of Commercial Road. Fine Fare became Gateway in 1987 and then Asda in 1991. Throughout this time there were no shops facing onto Chertsey Road.

In 1994, supermarkets gave way to entertainment and Asda was converted into The Planets, completed in 1996.

### The Planets

The Planets was a mixed-use scheme comprising hotel, restaurant, nightclub and leisure facilities (see right).

The ground floor bar included its own brewery. The names of the beers reflected Woking's history – H G Wells, nearby Newark Priory and its connection with aviation: Martian Invasion, HG's, Newark Abbey Ale, Buccaneer and Stealth Stout, amongst



doors and pitot were removed, and it was adorned with various drinks advertisements. The Buccaneer also was removed by the new owners, in 1999.



others. The head brewer was Bob Dupre; the brewery sold to the free trade under the name 'Brooklands Brewery'. The brewery was closed down in 1999/2000 after The Planets became The Big Apple.

Another feature of note was the Blackburn Buccaneer aircraft standing over the bar. This was XX895, a veteran of the first Gulf War. The tail-fin was cut off to clear the roof, the undercarriage



Figure 274. XX895 Blackburn Buccaneer standing over The Planets bar.

In 1999, The Planets came under new ownership and was rebadged as The Big Apple. The removal of the in-house brewery, by the new owners, allowed the creation of new commercial units fronting onto Chertsey Road. These include: The Woking Hotel, a nightclub and a pool bar.

**Changes in numbering of buildings on the north-west side of Chertsey Road, between the junction with Chobham Road and the junction with Commercial Road**

							Triangle															
<1910	<i>No numbering</i>						<i>No numbering</i>					6	5	4	3	2	1	Commercial Road	Tesco & Gerrards in Commercial Road	<i>No no.s</i>		
1910	26						28	30			32	34	36	38	40	42	44			46	48	50
1911-36	26						28	30	30a	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46			48	50	
1937	Burtens	Shops to Let					28	30	30a	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46			48	50	
1937-51	<i>No numbering</i>						28	30	30a	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46			48	50	
1951-76	24a	24b	24c	24d	26	28	31	30a	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48			50		
1976-78	24a	24b	24c	24d	26	<i>No buildings fronting onto Chertsey Road</i>														48	50	
1979-8?	24a	24b	24c	24d	26															48	50	
198?-99	26	28	30	32	34															48	50	
2020-	26	28	30	32	Lock-up	Big Apple											----- 44 -----			46	48	50

Note: Big Apple contains Woking Hotel, a nightclub and Shots pool hall fronting onto Chertsey Road



## No. 28

No. 28 Chertsey Road was probably built in 1907, to fill the gap between No.s 26 and 30. It does not explicitly appear in any references prior to the 1913 edition of Kelly's Surrey Directory (which was probably compiled in 1912), that lists Aldershot Laundry Ltd as occupants. The 1907 Woking rating list, however, shows W T Stevens (who was already occupying No. 30 – see page 158) as the occupant of a new building in Chertsey Road, owned by William Allum (William Allum also owned No.s 30 and 32)<sup>84</sup>.

For about five years, after the first world war, No. 28 was occupied by Vera Fletcher-Eaves, trading as 'Maison Vere', millinery, blouse and lingerie specialist.

In 1923, Robert Wasley, butcher, (see page 55) expanded into No. 28 from No. 26 next door. He traded there for about 8 years before being replaced by Sanders Brothers, grocers, in 1931.

Sanders Brothers vacated the shop in May 1951; S H Cox and Sons, fruiterers, took possession in December that year.<sup>85</sup>

The building was demolished in about 1975 for the building of the Fine Fare superstore (see page 152).



Figure 275. Wasley's shop c1925

Occupants of No. 28	
1907-09	William Thomas Stevens
1912-13	Aldershot Laundry Ltd
1914	H Lucas
1918-22	Maison Vere (Vera Fletcher-Eaves)
1923-30	Robert Wasley, butcher
1931-51	Sanders Brothers, grocers
1951-75	S H Cox & Sons, fruiterers

<sup>84</sup> SHC 6198/13/29 *Parish of Woking: Valuation, Rating and other Parish Records (1843-1936)*: Supplemental valuation lists (1902-08)

<sup>85</sup> SHC 6198/9/88 *General district rate book, Chertsey Road Ward, Woking (vol 2), for the half year to 30 Sep 1951 and the half year to 31 Mar 1952*

Following the refurbishment, in 1999, of The Planets as the Big Apple, businesses were once again established facing onto Chertsey Road. Since 2017, the former site of No. 28 has been occupied by the Little Food Company.



Figure 276. Little Food Company 2020

### **No. 30**

No. 30 Chertsey Road was built in about 1880, by Charles Wright, proprietor of the Red House Hotel. It is the two-storied building with the 'cycles' sign on it in Figure 277.

The first occupant was Matthew Cole, corn dealer, who is listed there in the 1881 census. Matthew died, in Guildford, in 1885, but is described in his will as 'formerly of Woking' so probably was there until just before his death.

Charles Wright died in 1888 and it appears the building was unoccupied for some years.

The next recorded occupants were [William] Underhill & sons, corn dealers, who took over the building in 1894.



Figure 277. No. 30 1911

William Thomas Stevens moved into No. 30, in 1903.<sup>86</sup> He may at this time have already been in partnership with Joseph William Pattinson. In 1907, he/they seem to have expanded into the newly built No. 28 (see above). Stevens's name can be made out, painted onto the roof of No. 30, in Figure 277.



Figure 278. W T Stevens advertisement 1905

The partnership between Stevens and Pattinson was dissolved on 24<sup>th</sup> June 1909; the announcement in the London Gazette<sup>87</sup> was signed only by Pattinson, so it is possible that Stevens had died. Pattinson wound the business up, the surplus stock being sold at auction in October 2010<sup>88</sup>.

In 1911<sup>89</sup>, the building was divided to make two units, the second being designated No. 30a. The Scotch Wool and Hosiery Stores (Fleming, Reid & Co. Ltd) took over No. 30; they occupied it for the next sixty years.

The building was demolished in about 1975 for the building of the Fine Fare superstore (see page 152).

Occupants of No. 30	
1881	Matthew Cole, corn dealer
1891	W B Harrison
1895-1901	William Underhill, corn & forage stores

<sup>86</sup> SHC 6198/13/29 *Parish of Woking: Valuation, Rating and other Parish Records (1843-1936)*: Supplemental valuation lists (1902-08)

<sup>87</sup> *London Gazette* 20 July 1909

<sup>88</sup> *West Surrey Times* 8 October 1910

<sup>89</sup> We have records of occupation of 30a in 1911 and if it had been divided before the 1910 renumbering, 30a would presumably have been 32.

1903-08	William Thomas Stevens, house furnisher
1911-68	The Scotch Wool and Hosiery Stores (Fleming, Reid & Co. Ltd)
1976-77	<i>Demolished</i>

### **No. 30a**

In 1911<sup>90</sup>, No. 30 was divided to make two units, the second being designated No. 30a. A 1911 postcard (Figure 277) suggests that a cycle dealer was then occupying 30a.

The Maypole Dairy Co. Ltd moved into 30a in 1912 and occupied it for the next fifty years.

Between the two world wars, Home & Colonial Stores expanded by purchasing three of its main competitors, including the struggling Maypole Dairy Co. in 1924.

Several grocery chains were associated through Allied Suppliers, a buying group formed in 1929. In 1960 the holding company, Home and Colonial Stores Co. Ltd, changed its name to Allied Suppliers Ltd, but the subsidiary retail chains (including Maypole) retained their original names.

Maypole closed their store at 30a in the early 1960s but, in 1967, Pearks (another allied brand) were being overshadowed and the Pearks store at No. 37 Chertsey Road began trading as Maypole (see page 52).

In 1964, Pearson & Co. (Camberley) Ltd were occupying No. 30a. They did not stay long however and, by 1967, it was Clarks, bakers, who became the last occupants before the building was demolished in about 1975 for the building of the Fine Fare superstore (see page 152).

Occupants of No. 30a	
1881	Matthew Cole, corn dealer
1891	W B Harrison
1895-1900	William Underhill, corn & forage stores
1905-08	William Thomas Stevens, house furnisher
1911	<i>Cycles</i>
1912-61	Maypole Dairy Co. Ltd
1964	Pearson & Co. (Camberley) Ltd
1967-73	Clarks, bakers
1976-77	<i>Demolished</i>

<sup>90</sup> We have records of occupation of 30a in 1911 and if it had been divided before the 1910 renumbering, 30a would presumably have been 32.

## No. 32

No. 32 Chertsey Road was built, probably, in about 1895. The first occupant was William Allum, a dealer in artists' materials, picture-framer and restorer.



Figure 279. William Allum 1867-1924

By 1903, William had acquired the freehold of No. 32, and also of No. 30 (30 and 30a were still one unit).

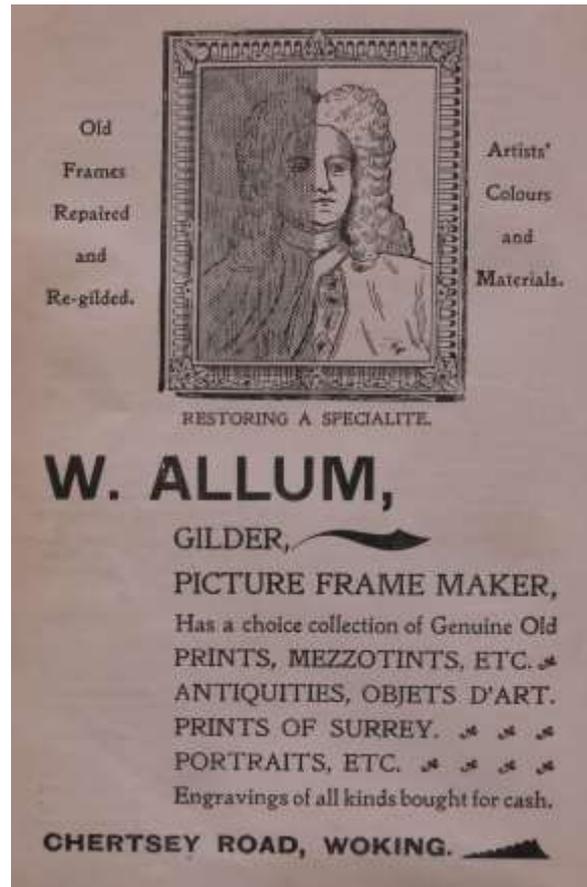


Figure 280. Advertisement 1908

In around 1910, William Allum moved his business into Duke Street. William Harker's Hardware Store then moved into the building and was there for about fifty years. William died in 1955 and his widow, Eva, the following year.

After the demise of Harker's Hardware Store, the shop was occupied by betting shops; firstly Mayhill and then Peter Karn.

The building was demolished in about 1975 for the building of the Fine Fare superstore (see page 152).

Occupants of No. 32	
1899-1909	William Allum, artists' colorman
1911-58	William Harker's Hardware Stores
1958-60	The Garden Shop (Collyer's Nurseries)
1961-64	Mayhill Betting Office
1967-75	Peter Karn, turf accountant
1976-77	<i>Demolished</i>

## No. 34

The first recorded occupants of No. 34 were Streeter Brothers, road & sewer contractors, who are listed in the 1900 street directory. The building appears on the 1895 OS Plan.

It is possible that the building was demolished and rebuilt in 1903/4; In 1904, Albert Wagner, fishmonger, moved in to what is described as a 'new building'.<sup>91</sup> Albert is listed in the 1905 Woking street directory, but did not stay long.

By 1908, the building was home to the London Central Meat Company (L.C.M. Co.). The 1908 directory lists J Burton as the proprietor. L.C.M. Co. traded from the premises for the next fifty years.

Baxters, butchers, replaced L.C.M. Co. in 1959.

From 1972 until 1974, No. 34 was home to Super Drug Stores Ltd.

The building was demolished in about 1975 for the building of the Fine Fare superstore (see page 152).

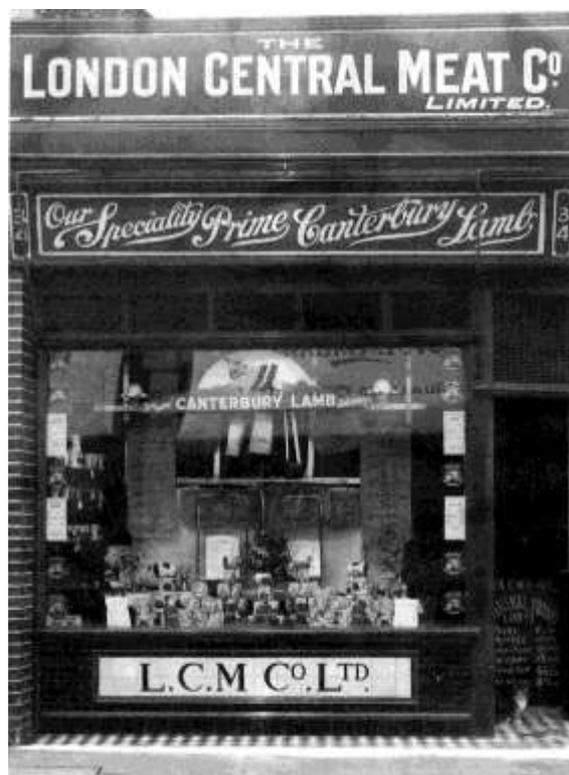


Figure 281. London Central Meat Co.

Occupants of No. 34	
1899-1900	Streeter Brothers, road & sewer contractors
1904-05	Albert Wagner, fishmonger
1908-58	London Central Meat Stores (J Burton)
1959-71	Baxters, butchers
1972-75	Super Drug Stores Ltd
1976-77	<i>Demolished</i>

<sup>91</sup> SHC 6198/13/29 Parish of Woking: Valuation, Rating and other Parish Records (1843-1936): Supplemental valuation lists (1902-08)

## THE TRIANGLE

The development known as The Triangle was built in 1903 on the triangular plot of land between Chertsey Road and Commercial Road (opposite what is now Wetherspoons).

In 1901, the land was owned by Mr Holroyd of the Friary, Holroyd & Healey's Breweries (which owned both the Albion and Red House Hotels). Woking Urban District Council were negotiating with Mr Holroyd for the purchase when Mr William J Butt, a councillor and chair of the Highways Committee, purchased it himself.<sup>92</sup>

The six single-storey, non-residential units that were built faced onto Chertsey Road and, until about 1910, were numbered 1 to 6 from the junction of the two roads towards the station (going in the opposite direction to all other numbering in the road).

The Woking rating valuation list for December 1903 lists occupants for all six units. The 1905 Woking directory (which would have been compiled in 1904) however shows three of the shops as vacant. It is possible the planned original occupants never took possession.

The Triangle was demolished in about 1975, for the building of the Fine Fare superstore, which blocked off the northern end of Commercial Road.

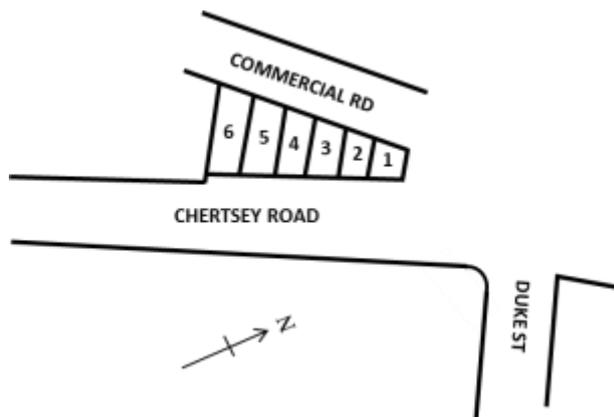


Figure 282. Plan of the Triangle



Figure 283. The Triangle c1917

<sup>92</sup> *West Surrey Times* 20 April 1901

The Council wanted to improve the layout of the junction; Holroyd apparently had stipulated clauses which would inhibit the Council. William Butt was willing to sell to the Council enough land for the improvements without any restrictions. His motivation for the purchase does however seem to be that he did not want any unsightly development in front of his house.

## No. 36 - 6, The Triangle

Between 1903 and 1920 there were a series of short-term tenants of 6 The Triangle. The first occupants listed in the valuation list of December 1903 were A Bernthal (probably Arthur W Bernthal) & L Felgate.

In 1907/8, the Robertson Brothers (see page 74) occupied the building.

In 1910, Norman James Westgate, tailor, had his shop there. By the time of the 1911 census, he had moved to Chertsey.

Albert and Alfred Harrison, tailors and hosiers, were brothers who had a shop at 51 Chertsey Road. In February 1906, the partnership between the brothers was dissolved, (see page 67). In 1909 Alfred vacated No. 51; by 1912 he had moved into 6 The Triangle (it is possible that in the meantime he had worked for Norman Westgate). Alfred Harrison died in 1914.

Towards the end of the first world war, William Pitcher, who had his bakery in No. 46 (1 The Triangle), opened refreshment rooms in No. 36.

From 1920 until 1926 Boots (then Boots Pure Drug Company Ltd) occupied the shop, before moving to larger premises in 21 Chertsey Road (see page 35).

Sydney Bailey, who had his gentlemen's outfitters at 31 Chertsey Road (page 45), opened a boys' shop at No. 36 in 1926/7. Sydney closed the Boys' Shop sometime around the start of the second world war.

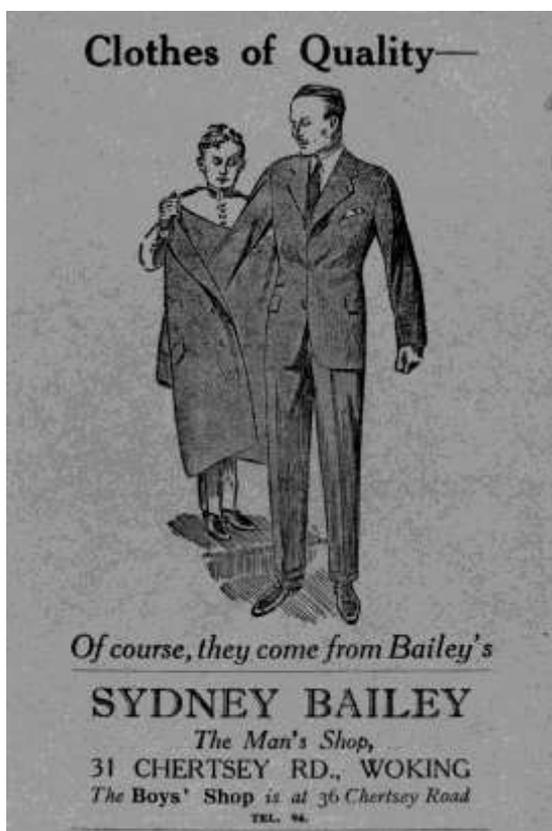


Figure 284. Sydney Bailey advertisement



Figure 285. Jane Arden advertisement 1966 (not Woking)

By 1943, Terry The Fashion Specialist was in the shop. He was succeeded by Jane Arden<sup>93</sup> in about 1950.

From 1959, Fine Furniture, of Aldershot, occupied the shop for eight years before moving to the High Street. Fine Furniture was followed by the Anglo-Brazilian Coffee Centre.

The Bellnam Wool Shop was the final occupant before the building was demolished, in about 1975, for the building of the Fine Fare superstore (see page 152).

Occupants of 6 The Triangle	
1903	A Bernthal & L Felgate
1904	<i>Vacant</i>
1907-08	Robertson Brothers
1910	Norman James Westgate, tailor
1912-14	Alfred Ernest Harrison, tailor
1915	Seaman, photographer <sup>94</sup> .
1917-18	Pitcher & Co., refreshment rooms
1920	<i>vacant</i>
1921-26	Boots, chemists
1927-37	Sydney A Bailey, Boys Shop
1943-49	Terry, The Fashion Specialist
1951-58	Jane Arden, ladies' fashion
1959-67	Fine Furniture (Aldershot) Ltd
1967-68	Anglo-Brazilian Coffee Centre
1972	Bellnam Wool Shop

### No. 38 - 5, The Triangle

5 The Triangle was first occupied in 1903 by Miss Agnes Emily Malpass, who had a 'china and glass warehouse', trading as Mrs A

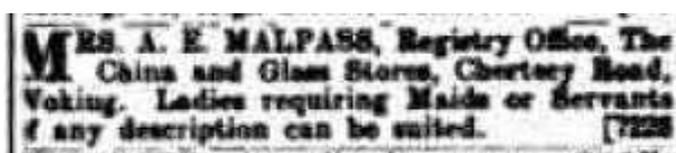


Figure 286. Malpass advertisement 1905

E Malpass. She was also operating an agency for domestic help.

In the 1901 census, Agnes was in service in Carshalton; in the 1911 census she was again in service, in Cheam. One can only presume that this short-lived venture into the world of business was, sadly, a failure.

<sup>93</sup> It is possible that the Jane Arden chain of shops was named after the 1930s comic-book character of that name. Readers were invited to send in designs for clothes that Jane then wore and a series of paper dolls and clothes were marketed.

<sup>94</sup> Sandy Barrie, an Australian photo-historian, list of photographers compiled from trade directories

The 1908 Woking directory records S Frost & Co., grocers, as occupying the building but no other records of them have been found. They were another short-lived enterprise.

The next occupant was the World's Stores, a chain of grocery and provisions shops across the south of England<sup>95</sup>. They moved out in about 1924. From 1927 to the mid-1970s, they had a branch in Commercial Road.

From 1927, for the next 50 years, the building was occupied by bakers and confectioners: Firstly Carltons, then Ideal Bakeries and, finally, Parslows of Reading.

The building was demolished in about 1975 for the building of the Fine Fare superstore (see page 152).

Occupants of 5 The Triangle	
1903-05	Miss Agnes Emily Malpass, China & glass warehouse
1907-08	S Frost & Co., grocer
1911-23	World's Stores
1925	<i>vacant</i>
1927-37	Carltons, confectioners
1943-58	Ideal Bakeries
1964-68	Parslows of Reading, bakers

#### **No. 40 - 4, The Triangle**

The first occupant of 4 The Triangle, listed in the valuation list of December 1903, was M H Stanley. There is no other evidence that he took possession.

Albert Edward and Henry George Woodhatch were brothers from Guildford, who were fruiterers and greengrocers. In about 1907, they opened a shop in Woking at 4 The Triangle. By 1911, the shop had been taken over by Herbert King who ran it for twenty years.

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<sup>95</sup> In 1930 the Company had 199 stores (*Chain-Store Developments in Great Britain, U.S. Department of Commerce Trade Information Bulletin No. 697*)

Benjamin Walter Lee moved to Woking from Fulham and took over the shop, in 1931. During the second World War, his business expanded into No. 42 next door.

Following his retirement in the 1950s, Benjamin's youngest son, Reginald, carried on the business until 1975, when the building was demolished for the building of the Fine Fare superstore (see page 152).



Figure 287. Benjamin Lee 1888-1956

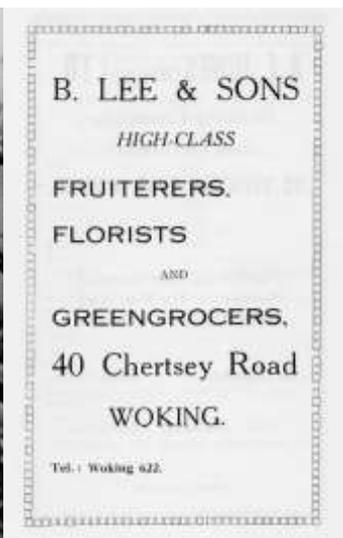


Figure 288. 1931 advert

Occupants of 4 The Triangle	
1903	M H Stanley
1904	<i>vacant</i>
1907-08	Woodhatch Brothers, fruiterers and greengroccers
1911-30	Herbert King, fruiterer
1931-1975	Benjamin Walter Lee & Sons, fruiterers

**No. 42 - 3, The Triangle**

The first occupant of 3 The Triangle, listed in the valuation list of December 1903, was William Henry Baverstock. There is no evidence that he actually took possession.

Eastmans Ltd, butchers, traded there from 1907 until the mid-1930s.



Figure 289. Eastman's shop window - tripe promotion

Sometime during the second World War, Benjamin Lee expanded his greengrocery business into the shop, from No. 40, next door.

Lee vacated the store in around 1970; it was taken over, briefly, by Bashers, butcher, until it was demolished in about 1975 for the building of the Fine Fare superstore (see page 152).

Occupants of 3 The Triangle	
1903	William Henry Baverstock
1905	<i>vacant</i>
1907-34	Eastmans Ltd, butchers
1937	<i>vacant</i>
1943-68	B Lee & Sons, fruiterers
1972	Bashers, butchers

### **No. 44 - 2, The Triangle**

2 The Triangle was first occupied in 1903 by William Huntley, tailor. He disappears from the records in 1905.

Louis Adolphe Huré and Ernest George Marshall, fishmongers and poulterers, were the next occupants. Louis and his family had moved to

Woking, from Aldershot, in 1899 to be manager of Wasley's fish shop.<sup>96</sup> In 1903 he set up in business with Ernest Marshall who already had a butcher's shop at No. 65 (see page 78). Louis seems to have retired around 1915.

Charles Edward Stubbs, fishmonger, took over the shop sometime during the first World War. In 1925 he opened a second shop at No. 25 Chobham Road; the Chertsey Road shop closed in 1927 when it was taken over by Albert Shortland.

Albert Shortland opened his first boot shop in Woking in 1927 at 44 Chertsey Road. By 1960, he had three shops in Woking and three others in Byfleet, West Byfleet and Cobham. In 1968 Albert opened another shop in Unit 4 Albion House; he closed his business at No. 44 at this time or shortly afterwards.



Figure 290. Albert Shortland's shop

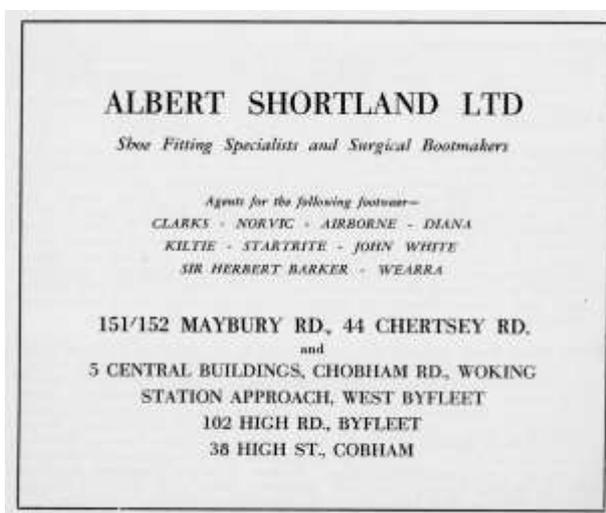


Figure 291. Shortland Advertisement 1960

Following Albert Shortland's departure, the shop was briefly occupied by Marriott Sherwell, estate agents, before being demolished in about 1975 for the building of the Fine Fare superstore (see page 152).

Figure 292. Marriott Sherwell advertisement 1972



<sup>96</sup> SHC CC802/12/2 Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962

Occupants of 2 The Triangle	
1903-05	William Huntley, tailor
1907-14	Huré & Marshall, fishmongers and poulterers
1917-26	Charles Edward Stubbs, fishmonger
1927-68	Albert Shortland, bootmaker, etc
1970-74	Marriott Sherwell

### No. 46 - 1, The Triangle

No. 1 The Triangle was built in about 1903. The first occupant was James Bernthal, who had a boot shop there from September 1903.



Figure 293. James Bernthal's shop 1905

James was made bankrupt in March 1905. At the hearing he attributed his insolvency to bad trade, stating that 'soon after he moved in, the District Council had erected a hoarding six feet from his main window which had greatly affected his trade'<sup>97</sup>.

<sup>97</sup> *West Surrey Times* 15 April 1905



The shop was taken over by Edward Cecil Duplock and was known as A1 Boot Stores. Duplock only stayed at No 46 for a few years, but in 1905 he had opened a store at No. 53 which he occupied for over fifty years (see page 69).

In 1913 the Woking Boot Repairing Company was listed at No. 46. Then from 1914 until 1935 it was home to Pitchers, bakers and confectioners. William Pitcher was born in Somerset and moved to Guildford in about 1905.

The Woking bakery was an addition to the bakery William already had in Guildford. In 1934, William had 19 branches listed - in Guildford, Godalming, Chertsey, Woking, Weybridge and Addlestone.

Figure 294. Pitcher's entrance

Arthur Gordon Nathan was born in London in 1902. In 1937-38 he was trading, as a costumier, from 46 Chertsey Road, under the name 'Arthurs'. At the same time he was also trading in the High Street as 'Leytons'. On 21<sup>st</sup> September 1938 he filed for bankruptcy in Guildford court.<sup>98</sup> In his examination, he blamed his failure partly on the electrification of the railway line to Woking which allowed easier access to larger shopping centres.<sup>99</sup>

In 1939, Renee Gilbert née Goodman of Staines and Gertrude Levine née Koritski of Balham, described as 'sellers of ladies gowns' were in possession. By the end of the war, they had departed.

From 1947 until about 1970, the building was occupied by Elsie Bechinsky, 'ladies, fashion, milliner, etc.', trading as Elsie.

In the early 1970s the building housed John, gentlemen's hairdresser (Figure 295).



Figure 295. John's, gentlemen's hairdresser

<sup>98</sup> *London Gazette* 27 September 1938

<sup>99</sup> *Surrey Advertiser* 4 January 1939

The building was demolished in about 1975 for the building of the Fine Fare superstore (see page 152).

Occupants of 1 The Triangle	
1903-05	James Bernthal, boots
1907-11	A1 Boot Company (Cecil Duplock)
1913	Woking Boot Repairing Company
1914-35	Pitcher & Co., bakers and confectioners
1936	vacant
1937-38	Arthur Nathan
1939	Renee Gilbert / Gertrude Levine
1947-68	Elsie, ladies' fashion, milliner, etc (Elsie Bechinsky)
1972	John, barber

#### **46a**

In about 1912, the shop seems to have been divided, which created 46a. In 1912-13, 46a was occupied by John Cassen, a butcher; in 1918, by Mrs Mary Ann Orridge who ran a drug store, before moving that same year to Commercial Road.

Occupants of No. 46a	
1912-13	John Cassen
1913-15	Allan Thomas Green
1917-18	Mrs Mary Ann Orridge

#### **No. 61 Commercial Road**

No. 83 (later No. 61) Commercial Road was close to the junction with Chertsey Road. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, due to the acute angle at which the roads met, the low density of buildings and the fact that the roads were not made up, it was not clear whether what were later 61-65 Commercial Road were then in Commercial Road or in Chertsey Road. Censuses and directories of the period were consistently inconsistent. The building was generally listed as the Carriage Works until about 1921 when it became No. 83 Commercial Road. Under the 1950 renumbering scheme it became No. 61.



Figure 296. Carriage works (front right)  
c.1905

The building was constructed in about 1890. The first known occupants Head & Sons, carriage builders, were present in 1894.

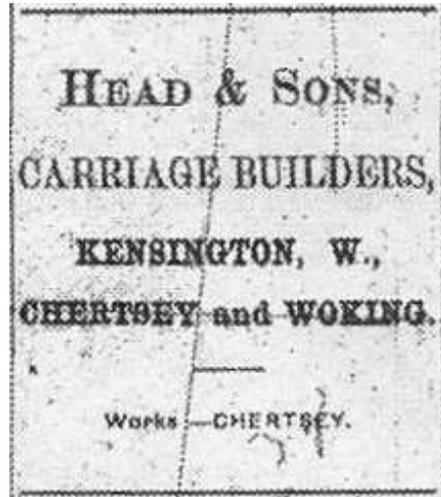


Figure 297. Head advert 1894

Head & Sons was established in Kensington and Chertsey by Charles Head, in the 1860s. It was Charles's son, Edward, who started the Carriage Works in Woking in about 1890.

Edward retired in about 1913, and the building was taken over by Robertson Brothers. Alexander Gordon Robertson and Gordon Caddel Robertson were sons of solicitor, William Henry Raymond Robertson who moved to Woking in about 1880.

Alexander and Gordon established their furniture and auctioneering business in Chertsey Road between the junctions with Duke Street and Walton Road in the late 1890s. In 1906/7 they moved into Maybury Road.

The business expanded and the brothers had depositories in Boundary Road and auction rooms in 83 Commercial Road (described as 'in Chertsey Road' in the advertisement in Figure 298).



Figure 298. Robertson advert 1934



Figure 299. Robertson Brothers

Gordon Robertson died in 1918 and Alexander continued the business on his own. After Alexander's death in 1961, the business was wound up.

The building was then taken over by Gerrards.

### **Thomas Cottages**

Thomas Cottages were in Commercial Road but directly on the junction with Chertsey Road; like 61 Commercial Road (see above), they were often included in directories and census returns for Chertsey Road. They were among the first houses to be built on Woking Common north of the railway, being constructed in about 1860. In 1861 they were occupied by Edward Sullivan and George Watmore, both employees of the railway.

In 1885, the two cottages were sold, at auction; they were purchased by Mrs Mary Ann Othan, for £515<sup>100</sup>. Mary Othan had previously had a draper's shop in Woking, in 1877<sup>101</sup>, presumably in the High Street. Separated from her husband, she then (1885) lived in Kingston upon Thames.

In about 1910, when Chertsey Road was systematically numbered, Thomas Cottages became No.s 85/87 (later 63/65) Commercial Road.

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<sup>100</sup> *West Surrey Times* 23 May 1885

<sup>101</sup> *Post Office Directory of Surrey* 1878

No. 85 (2 Thomas Cottages) was converted, in about 1930, to a commercial property, extending over the front garden.

Direct Fruit Supply, also known as Woking Fruit & Vegetable Market (Figure 300), traded there up until the second world war.

From 1945 to 1948, it was Miller's Café; the proprietor being Frederick Thomas Miller. In 1948, the café moved to a new location at No. 75 Chertsey Road.



Figure 300. Woking Fruit & Vegetable Market

In about 1960, the building was extended sideways (towards No. 83) and rearwards, almost quadrupling in size. In June 1961, Tesco opened Woking's first self-service supermarket in No.s 63 and 65.

**GRAND OPENING**  
**OF YET ANOTHER**  
**TESCO**  
**SUPERMARKET**  
**63, COMMERCIAL ROAD WOKING**

**THURSDAY**  
**JUNE 22<sup>nd</sup> at**  
**9 a.m.**

Save 15/- to 20/- Every Week on Your Food Bills at

**TESCO**

FIRST QUALITY FRESH MEAT AT DEEP CUT PRICES  
 ALL MEAT PREPARED AND PACKED ON THE PREMISES  
 OVER 4,000 BRANDED ITEMS TO CHOOSE FROM AT SPECIAL LOW PRICES

**\* FREE GIFT \***  
**6 KEMP'S ARCTIC BARS FREE**  
 with each packet of **KEMP'S CHOC-O-LAIT BISCUITS 1/7**  
 SAVE 1/-

**HARTLEY'S STRAWBERRY JAM**  
 1/9s CUT TO **1/6** 1lb  
 save 3/d

**AUSTRALIAN SLICED PEACHES**  
 2/6 Family CUT TO **2/-** 1lb 7oz  
 Save 6d.

**KELLOGGS CORN FLAKES**  
 1/11 CUT TO **1/3** Family Size  
 save 3/d.

**PAR THE PICKLE**  
 1/3 1lb  
 save 1/-

**GOLDEN RING CORNED BEEF**  
 2/9 7lb  
 save 1/-

**ST. MARTIN'S ORANGE MARMALADE**  
 10/d 1lb  
 save 1/-

**CHOSIE & BLACKWELL'S SALAD CREAM**  
 1/8 1lb 1oz  
 save 1/-

**GOLDEN RING SELF-RAISING FLOUR**  
 1/2 5lb bag  
 save 1/-

**BALDWIN'S TOMATO**  
 7/d 1lb 1oz  
 save 1/-

**PROVISION DEPARTMENT**  
 All perishables sold under constant refrigeration  
 Finest Quality Specially Selected BACON, CORNED MEATS, CHEESE, SAUSAGES, ETC.

**\* FREE GIFT \***  
**ONE WALL'S PIE FREE** with every Pound of Wall's Sausages

**OVEN READY CHICKENS**  
 Chicken Portions **3/-** per pound

**\* FREE GIFT \***  
**1 x 3pt. FOSTER CLARK'S BLANCHMANGE FREE** with each tin of Foster Clark's Blackcurrants  
 2/4 CUT TO **1/6** SAVE 10d.

**\* FREE GIFT \***  
**1 Tin Batchelors Baked Beans FREE** with each tin Batchelors Chopped Pork with Ham  
 2/11 CUT TO **2/4** SAVE 7/d.

**\* FREE GIFT \***  
**1 x 1/- Jar Epicure Mint Sauce FREE** with Joint of Fresh Meat over 3/6

**KRAFT FRUIT SALAD**  
 1/6 1lb  
 save 1/-

**GOLDEN RING DARTY CREAM**  
 8/d 1lb  
 save 1/-

**FINEST QUALITY STRAWBERRIES**  
 1/6 1lb  
 save 1/-

**GOLDEN RING EVAPORATED MILK**  
 11/d 1lb  
 save 1/-

**SUNFRESH ORANGE or LEMON SQUASH**  
 2/3 1lb 7oz  
**2/-** 1lb  
 save 1/3

**SHEDLEY'S RASPBERRIES IN RICH STRIP**  
 2/10 1lb 7oz  
**1/7 1/2** 1lb  
 save 1/3

**Family Shopping Night**  
**Every Friday**  
**OPEN UNTIL 7.30 p.m.**

**WE HAVE OVER 400 BRANCHES AND SUPERMARKETS**

Figure 301. Announcement of Tesco's self-service supermarket 1961

### No.s 61-65 Commercial Road

No.s 61, 63 and 65 Commercial Road were subsumed into Chertsey Road in the 1970s; the building of the Fine Fare Superstore had erased most of the

northern end of Commercial Road, isolating these three buildings. At the time they were occupied by Gerrards (fruiterers) and the Tesco Supermarket.



Figure 302. Gerrards and Tesco c.1965

After Perrings took over the two shops, in the late-1980s, the building was allocated the address '46 Chertsey Road'. Perrings was superseded by The Suite Shop, incorporating Bensons for Beds.

Figure 303. 1997 advertisement for Bensons for Beds, within The Suite Shop

Occupants of No.s 61-65 Commercial Road		
<1976-86	Gerrards	Tesco
1989-96	Perrings, furniture store	
1996-98	The Suite Shop	
1999-	Rat & Parrot	

After 11 years trading, the furniture store closed and the buildings became the Rat & Parrot.

The Rat & Parrot has lain derelict since 2009.



Figure 304. Rat & Parrot c.2005



Figure 305. Rat & Parrot in 2020

### **No. 48**

No. 48 was built sometime in the 1890s. The first known occupant was Henry Quartermaine who ran his plumbing business from there in 1899/1900.

Henry Dafter Quartermaine was born in Maidenhead, Berkshire in 1868, the son of a plumber and gas engineer. He married in 1890 and moved to Woking with his wife and first daughter in 1894.

Henry was in Maidenhead, described as an oilman, in the 1891 census. In Woking he set himself up as a plumber and sanitary engineer, in Chertsey Road. By 1901 he also had a cycle manufactory a few doors down.

In 1905, Henry was describing himself as an electrical engineer. The following year, he established the motor works and garage (for which he is probably best remembered) at 6-8 Chobham Road.

Henry Quartermaine was not just a tradesman or businessman, but a true entrepreneur. In about 1910 he built the Central Assembly Halls in Chertsey Road; the Palace Cinema installed in 1913 was the town's first. In the 1920s he purchased the Woking Public Hall in Commercial Road, converting it into the Grand Theatre.

Henry Quartermaine was an active member of the Tradesmen's Alliance, becoming vice-president in 1902.

The motor works was closed in about 1920 as Henry went into politics full time. He was a long-time member of Woking Urban District Council and its mayor in 1925 and 1930. He also became a Justice of the Peace.



Figure 306. Henry Quartermaine campaigning

In 1903 the building was taken over by the Alpine Farm Dairy, run by Frederick Charles Webb. The dairy had previously been in Maybury Road, where Frederick had been in partnership with a Frederick Grimwood<sup>102</sup>.

Despite the impressive 1908 advertisement, shown in Figure 308, it appears the business was not a financial success. The dairy was taken over by Court Creamery (who were in Guildford Road) and closed within two years.

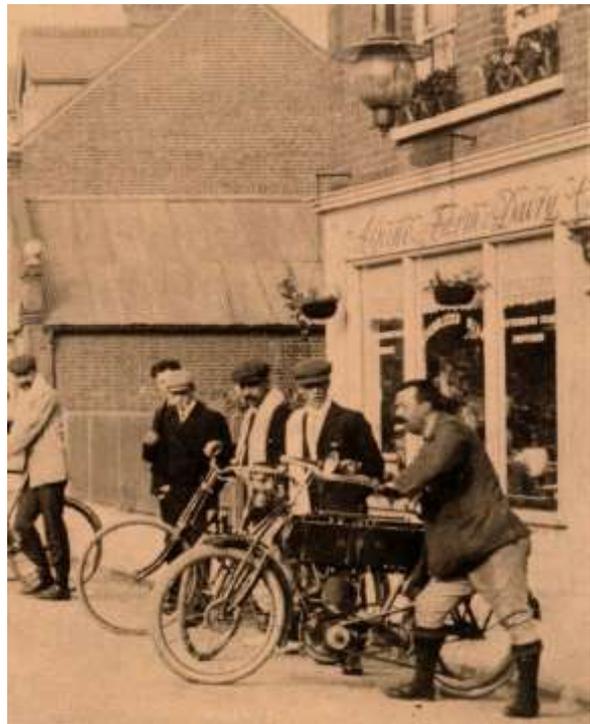


Figure 307. Alpine Farm Dairy c.1905

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<sup>102</sup> *London Gazette* 7 April 1903



Figure 308. 1908 Advertisement



Figure 309. Court Creamery advertisement

In 1911, the building became home to Albert Victor Pearce's Cycle and Sports Depot. In December that same year, Albert married Mabel, the daughter of Henry Quartermaine.

Albert was obviously a man who liked to be at the forefront of things. In 1935 he moved into the business of selling wireless accessories.

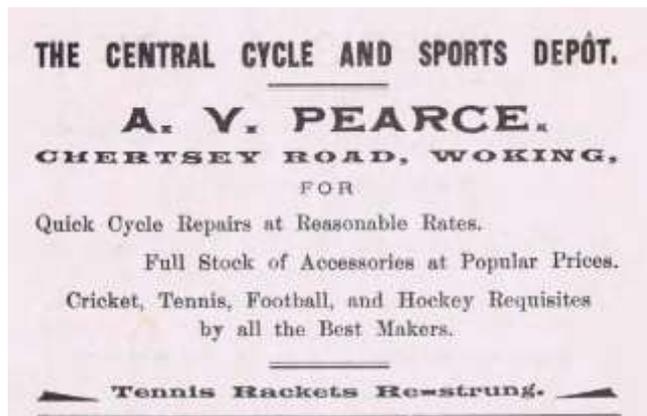


Figure 310. A V Pearce advertisement 1911

Albert died in 1948 and the shop was taken over by Maxwell's. Ernest Hedley Maxwell had established his music retail business in 1896 in the Broadway, before moving to Guildford Road. The Guildford Road store specialised in musical instruments, whilst the Chertsey Road shop sold televisions, radios, recording and playback equipment and records.



Figure 311. Maxwell advertisement 1960

Figure 312. No. 48 Maxwell's music shop

Maxwell's closed in about 1980 and the shop became an Asian grocery store – Shah Oriental Food.

In the 1990s, the building became home to a Chinese restaurant; firstly, Noble House and then part of Imperial Garden (which also encompassed No.s 50 and 52).



Figure 313. Shah Oriental Food



Figure 314. Imperial Garden Restaurant

From 2009 until 2016, No. 48 was Simon James, menswear; it has been home to Universal Carpets since 2017.



Figure 315. Simon James Menswear



Figure 316. Universal Carpets 2020

Occupants of No. 48	
1900	Henry Quartermaine, plumber
1903-8	Alpine Farm Dairy
1910-11	The Court Creamery
1911-34	Cycle & Sports Depot (Albert Victor Pearce)
1937-48	A V Pearce, wireless accessories, etc
1949-50	Brian Cureton-Jones
1954-78	E H Maxwell & Sons, music, etc (Albert F J Baker)
1982-86	Mushtaq Hussein Shah, oriental foods & greengrocer
1995-97	Noble House, Chinese restaurant
2006-08	Imperial Garden, Chinese restaurant
2009-16	Simon James, menswear
2017-20	Universal Carpets

## No.s 50 & 52

No.s 50 and 52 Chertsey Road was built in 1885 for William Moore as a shop and printing works. A report in a local paper (Figure 317) describes a supper he laid on for the workers who had been engaged on the building<sup>103</sup>. The builder was Mr S Horsey.

<sup>103</sup> *Surrey Advertiser* 11 January 1886

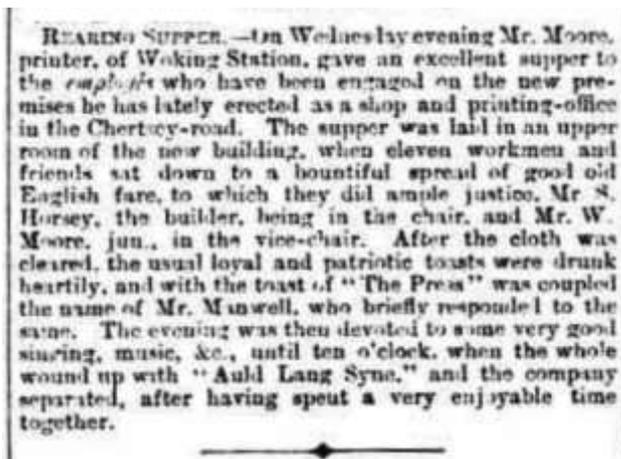


Figure 317. Rearing supper 1886

newspaper, *The Woking News*, on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October 1894. After Moore's departure, the Woodbridge Press became proprietor of the *Woking News*. After only a few years, the *News* merged with the *Woking Mail* which had started in 1895.

In about 1908, the buildings passed to Mrs Elizabeth Moore who continued to rent them to the Woodbridge Press. No. 52 became Woking Printing Works and the office of the *Woking News & Mail*. From about this time, John Sparkes Goldsmith was the resident editor.



Figure 320. News & Mail accounts dept

Do NOT Fail to pay a visit to MOORE'S, Chertsey Road, Woking, who has the Largest and Best Stock of Xmas Cards, Booklets and Novelties suitable for the season in the neighbourhood. — W. MOORE, Printer, Stationer and Bookbinder, Woking.

Figure 318. Advertisement 1893

William Moore had been born in Dorset; in 1881 he was living in Farnham, Surrey. He came to Woking in 1883 but left 10 years after building the print works, moving to Hove, Sussex.

William Moore produced the first ever edition of Woking's first



Figure 319. John S Goldsmith

Everyone 'Who's who'  
in Woking reads the

**"NEWS & MAIL"**

The leading local newspaper for over  
half a century

Audited average weekly sale  
(Jan. June 1959) 12,963 copies

Telephones  
60601 (Advertising)  
2821 (Newsroom)

**52 CHERTSEY ROAD,  
WOKING**

Figure 321. News & Mail advert 1960

In 1917, Herbert Henry Dall, confectioner moved into of No. 50.

In the 1950s, No. 50 became a tobacconist's as well as a confectioner's and then, in about 1965, was taken over by Skuse & Co. estate agents. Skuse subsequently moved to Duke Street in about 1970.

The Woking News & Mail expanded their offices from No. 52 into 50 and occupied it until 2006, when the offices relocated to Stoke Mill, Woking Road, Guildford.



Figure 322. No.s 50/52 c.1950



In 2007-08 50 and 52, along with 48, became the Imperial Garden Chinese Restaurant when it moved from No. 58.

The cottages had been occupied by the Gorkha Grocery since July 2012. This business was dissolved in September 2020.

Figure 323. February 2020

Occupants of 50	
1885-95	William Moore
1896-1911	Woodbridge Press
1913	Arthur Henry Glover, shopkeeper
1917-30	Herbert Henry Dall, confectioner
1931-57	Harry V Hand, confectioner
1961-64	G L Mill
1967-68	Skuse & Co.
1986-2006	Woking News & Mail
2007-08	Imperial Garden, Chinese restaurant
2012-20	Gorkha Grocery

Occupants of 52	
1885-95	William Moore
1896-2006	Woking News & Mail
2007-08	Imperial Garden, Chinese restaurant
2012-20	Gorkha Grocery

## No.s 54 - 58

The building currently designated No.s 54 to 58 Chertsey Road, consisting of five retail units, dates from the 1960s. This site has, however, been redeveloped several times.

## Post Office

When the Post Office left its former home at No. 1 High Street in 1872, it moved to Walton Road, right on the junction with Chertsey Road.

In 1877, the Woking Station branch took over from the Woking village branch as Woking's main post office. It soon proved hopelessly inadequate and, in 1882, Jesse Mansell commissioned the building of a new post office and postmaster's house, in Chertsey Road, directly opposite the old one.



Figure 324. Post Office c.1880

Between 1864 & 1890, the number of letters per week passing through the office increased from 3,000 to 16,000. On 1st August 1883, the Post Office started a parcel post service.

The new town of Woking was now expanding rapidly. A new post office was planned in the development of Station Estate (the triangle formed by Chertsey Road, the Broadway and what was later Duke Street), at 4 Bank Buildings (see page 46). In 1893, the existing post office was demolished to allow for the building of the Woking Liberal and Radical Club and Institute (later successively replaced by the Woking Assembly Halls and the Plaza and Gaumont cinemas).

## Liberal Club and cinemas

The Woking Liberal and Radical Club and Institute was completed in October 1893. The builder was William J Butt. The club was located where No.s 54, 54a, 56 and 56a are today. The building met with general approval<sup>104</sup>.

1909 was to prove a bad year for the Liberals in Woking: support waned and in June that year the club was closed; furniture, seized for 'distrainment of rent', was sold by auction.<sup>105</sup>

**THE NEW LIBERAL CLUB.**

A meeting was held in the premises of the new Liberal Club on Friday evening in last week for the purpose of forming the club. There was a good attendance of Liberals, who made a thorough inspection of the buildings. The furniture had not then arrived from the contractors, Messrs. Waterer and Sons, of Chertsey, consequently the building was not seen at its best. Everything, however, seems to have so far been carried out in the most approved manner, and there is quite an up-to-date appearance about the premises. The electric light has been fitted throughout, and in the reading and billiard-rooms especially this will prove far superior to gas, a steady bright light and a cool atmosphere being secured. The rooms are well arranged and of good size, and the bar is quite shut off from the rest of the building, being upstairs. On Friday the approval of the premises was unanimous, and the builder, Mr. W. J. Butt, was deservedly complimented upon the satisfactory execution of his contract.

Figure 325. Press report of New Liberal Club

The Liberal Club was replaced in about 1910, by Henry Quartermaine who built the Central Assembly Halls. The Halls were No. 54 Chertsey Road. In 1913, Henry installed the Palace Cinema, Woking's first cinema, opening in March that year.

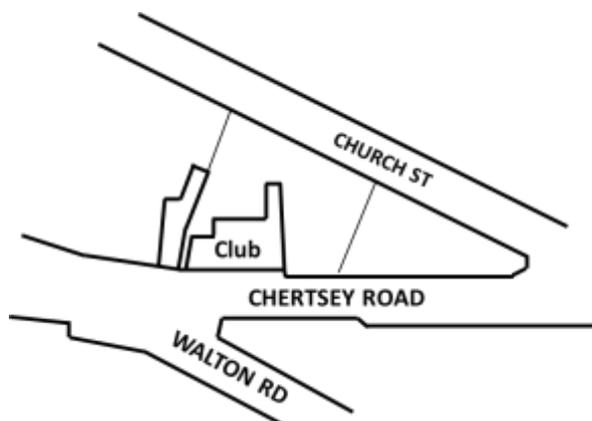


Figure 326. Plan of Liberal Club 1896



Figure 327. Plan of Central Halls 1914

Cohen & Freedman became proprietors of the Central Halls in 1923; in 1926/7 they closed for four months for refurbishment and changed the name to the Plaza.

<sup>104</sup> *West Surrey Times* 21 October 1893

<sup>105</sup> *West Surrey Times* 3 July 1909

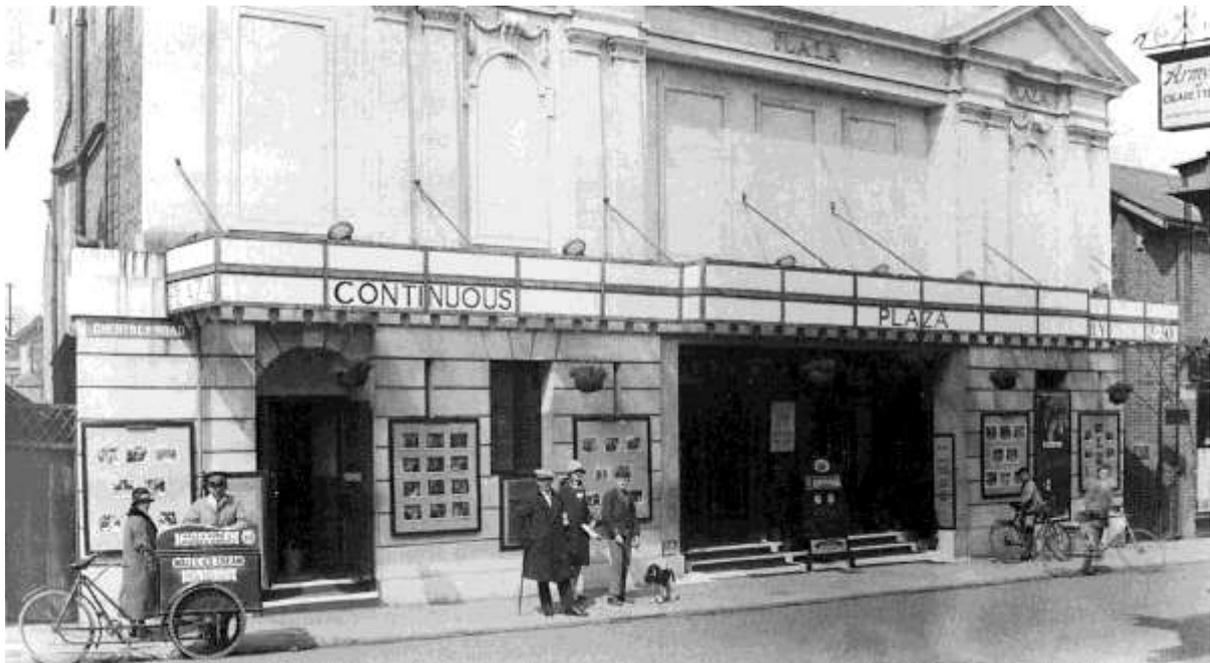


Figure 328. The Plaza in 1927



Figure 329. The Gaumont c.1950

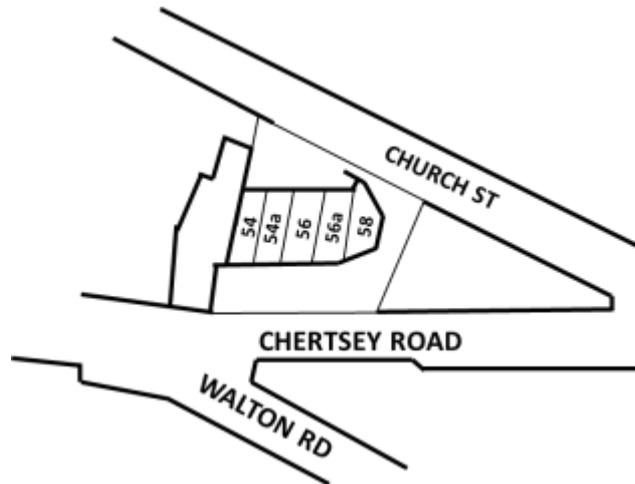


Figure 330. Plan of 1960s parade of shops

### Old No. 56

The building previously known as No. 56 was built alongside the Liberal Club in about 1895 (it does not appear on the 1896 OS Plan).

The first occupier was Henry Quartermaine, variously described as, plumber, sanitary engineer, electrical engineer and cycle manufacturer (see page 176).

Occupants of No. 56	
1896-14	Henry Quartermaine
1918-31	Cinema Café
1931-59	Sunray Restaurant

He would later go on to become chairman of the Woking Urban District Council. It seems he had a cycle shop and workshops on the premises<sup>106</sup>.

After the cinema opened, No. 56 was converted into the Cinema Café; Miss Maud Rawlings was the proprietess until 1931. In 1931, the Cinema Café became the Sunray Restaurant, run by sisters, the Misses Beatrice Maud and Georgina Constance Wilson.

56a (a flat over the Sunray) was rented out. Between 1924 and 1927 it was used as a studio by Miss Marguerite Reed, the well-known local photographer.



Figure 331. The Sunray

Marguerite Reed was born Margaret Emma Reed in 1884, the youngest of three daughters of postal worker Thomas Reed and his wife Elizabeth. Marguerite had taken over the studio, formerly run by Alfred Wildman at 88 Maybury Road in April 1917, advertising in the Woking News & Mail that she specialised in photographing children.

In 1917 she married Thomas Hendra at the Guildford Registry Office. Their professions were given as Army Pensioner and Photographer respectively.

Marguerite left the Maybury Road studio in 1822 and for two years had a studio in Bon Marché, Commercial Road before moving briefly to 56a Chertsey Road. Sidney Francis took over the Maybury Road studio in 1924; it has been suggested that many of his credited photographs were actually taken by Marguerite.



Figure 332. Portrait by Marguerite Reed

Marguerite carried on her photography business from her parents' former home (Stone House, 2 Sandy Lane, Maybury) from about 1827 until her retirement, contributing photographs to the local newspapers for many years.

<sup>106</sup> *Street Directory* 1900; 1901 UK Census

The building closed in the early 1950s along with the Gaumont, was demolished, and replaced by the current parade of shops.

Occupants of No. 56a	
1922	Henry Quartermaine
1924-27	Marguerite Reed
1932	HQ
1936	A W Housden



Figure 333. The Parade c.1970

### **No. 54 & 54a, The Parade**

The first occupier of No. 54 was Coombe's, the bakers (seen in Figure 333), who stayed until about 1970. 54a was occupied by Walbrook's, butchers; after five years they were replaced, in 1967, by the Speed Queen Laundrette (also in Figure 333).

In around 2000, 54 and 54a were combined and since then have been home to a succession of restaurants; currently the Bulgogi, Korean restaurant.



Figure 334. Peter's Palace



Figure 335. Planet Café 2014



Figure 336. Hungry Buddha 2015

Occupants of 54 / 54a		
1962-64	Coombe's, bakers	Walbrook's, butchers
1965-67		
1968-69		Speed Queen, launderette
1970-72		
1973-83	Gale Employment	
1987-95	The Pension Shop	
1996		
2005-08	Peter's Palace, Chinese restaurant	
2012-14	Planet Café	
2015	Hungry Buddha, Chinese & Vietnamese restaurant	
2015-20	Bulgogi, Korean restaurant	



Figure 337. Bulgogi 2020

**No. 56, The Parade**

The first occupier of No. 56 was Kenneth Harding.

In 1965, Susan Gay (seen in Figure 333), female fashions, moved in, staying for about 15 years.

In 1982, Mrs D Deeker had her casualwear and second-hand garments shop here, trading as 'Mishon'.



Figure 338. Susan Gay advertisement 1965



Figure 339. Compros 2012



Figure 340. I Buy Wargames 2015

Since 2015, the shop has been home to the board-game shop, I Buy Wargames. Figure 341 shows owner, Ian Simpkins, with a selection of his stock.



Figure 341. Ian Simpkins

Occupants of 56	
1964	Kenneth Harding
1965-77	Susan Gay Separates, ladies wear
1982	Mishon (Mrs D Deeker), casual wear & second-hand garments
1990	Video View, video hire
1995	Network Mobile Phones

2008	<i>vacant</i>
2010-15	Compros, computer repairs
2015-	I Buy Wargames

### No. 56a, The Parade

56a was first occupied by the television rental firm, Rentaset, from 1962. In 1964, Rentaset merged with Radio Rentals; in 1967 this store was trading as Radio Rentals.

The shop was then taken over by Amor Travel, the first of four travel firms to consecutively occupy the building.

Amor Travel was followed, in 1975, by Oxy Travel.

Alec Bristow was born in Epsom in 1916. He served with the RAF during World War 2, earning the Distinguished Flying Cross for the Oslo raid on Gestapo HQ and was a surviving escapee of the 'Great Escape' from Stalag Luft III.

He opened Alec Bristow Travel in Chertsey in 1963, eventually having five shops including two in Woking. One branch occupied No. 56a from 1977 until January 1995.

Alec Bristow died in 1990 and, on 31<sup>st</sup> January 1995, the business was sold to Travel Professionals.

Travel Professionals only stayed for a couple of years. Telepeople Recruitment Ltd were the first of a series of recruitment agencies to occupy the shop.



Figure 342. Oxy Travel advertisement 1975



Figure 343. Alec Bristow

After Xpert Personnel, Airport Direct Cars interrupted the sequence, briefly, before Brite Recruitment had a short stint.

In 2014 and 2015 respectively, G&G and Gyems (both barbers) occupied the shop.

Since 2016, 56a has been home to Oriental Massage & Herbs.



Figure 344. Xpert Personnel 2008



Figure 345. Brite Recruitment 2012



Figure 346. G&G barbers 2014



Figure 347. Gyems barbers 2015



Figure 348. Oriental Massage & Herbs 2020

Occupants of 56a	
1955-67	Rentaset Ltd / Radio Rentals
1968	<i>Vacant</i>
1969-74	Amor Travel
1975-77	Oxy Travel
1977-95	Alec Bristow Travel

1995-96	Travel Professionals
1997-1999	Telepeople Recruitment Ltd
2008	Xpert Personnel
2009	Airport Direct Cars
2011-12	Brite Recruitment
2014	G&G, barbers
2015	Gyems, barbers
2016-	Oriental Massage & Herbs

### **No. 58, The Parade**

In 1963, the Tong Do Chinese restaurant became one of the first oriental restaurants in Woking, when it opened in No. 58 (seen on the right-hand side of Figure 333).

In the mid-1970s, the Tong Do was replaced by the Silver Palace, which was itself replaced by another Chinese restaurant, the Imperial Garden, in 1991. In 2007, the Imperial Garden moved to No.s 48-52, but closed in 2008.

Occupants of 58	
1963-75	Tong Do, restaurant
1979-91	Silver Palace, restaurant
1991-2007	Imperial Garden, restaurant
2008-	Chill-I-Grill

Since 2008 No. 58 has been the Chill-I-Grill, an eat-in and take-away fast-food restaurant.



Figure 349. 56a, 58 The Parade in 2020

## No. 60

No. 60 was probably built in about 1880 (around the same time as No. 62), but the first recorded occupancy was not until 1913. It was probably associated with No. 62 – perhaps as a manager’s house or storage – and so was not listed separately. Even after 1913, records are sporadic.



Figure 350. No. 60 viewed from Church Street multi-storey carpark, c.1975

In 1913-16 it was home to Hall & Co.’s Penny Bazaar, run by Mrs Emily Carter.

French Cleaning Services operated from the building from 1931 to 1934.

The longest continuous record of occupation was of Madame Louise, costumier from 1942-57.

In 1964, an E Billings is recorded as occupying the building.

The building was demolished in the 1980s and is now a small green space.

Occupants of No. 60	
1913-16	Hall & Co., Penny Bazaar (Mrs Emily Carter)
1931-34	French Cleaning Services
1942-57	Mdm Louise, costumier
1964	E Billings



Figure 351. Green space on site of No. 60

## No. 62

No. 62 Chertsey Road was built in about 1880, on the corner of Chertsey Road and Church Street.

Henry James Ansell of Kent, married Eliza Soan in Woking in October 1879; his daughter was born in Canterbury nine months later. From 1881 - the census, taken on 3<sup>rd</sup> April, describes him as 'grocer, not trading' (suggesting the store was yet to open) – he was running a grocery and ale store at No. 62. The shop was owned by Trimmer's Brewery, Farnham.

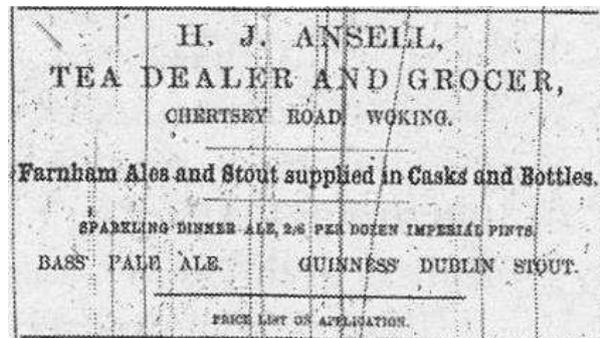


Figure 352. Ansell advert 1894



Figure 353. Postcard c.1908



Figure 354. Henry James Ansell stoneware jug

Henry's wife, Eliza, died in 1906 and, in 1907, Henry moved to Essex to live with his sister and widowed mother.

Trimmer's had become Farnham United Breweries in 1889; they continued to own the shop, run by various managers until about 1930. It was then acquired by Simeon Thomas Hinton who ran an off-licence until his retirement in 1952, aged 75.

For a few years it was known as the Wine Stores, before being taken over by the Arthur Cooper chain in about 1955.



Figure 355. Advertisement for The Wine Stores

Occupants of No. 62	
1881-1907	Henry James Ansell, grocer & beer dealer
1907-29	Farnham United Breweries
1934-52	Simeon Thomas Hinton, Wines & spirits
1952-61	The Wine Stores (William F C Applin)
1962-70	Arthur Cooper, Wine merchants

The building was demolished in the 1970s to allow for the extension of Stanley Road. The last vestiges disappeared along with No. 60 and the site is where the roundabout at the junction of Chertsey Road, Church Street East and Stanley Road now is.



his daughter, Beulah, although he also had a sister with the same first name.

William Strongman Moore lived in No. 68 from 1870 to 1873. His first wife, Rosetta, died in 1872 and, in 1873, William remarried<sup>107</sup>, moving to a new house in Goldsworth Road.

The houses remained as private residences until they were demolished in the late 1970s.

Occupants of No. 68	
1870-73	William Strongman Moore
1880-81	John E L Quick
1891	Henry Rogers
1911	Charles Over
1914	G Goodyear
1918	A E Wilson
1921-29	D Jewell
1931	M Jewell
1934-37	A G Cooper
1942-68	Horace Albert Lutley
2013-16	Thompson House
2017-	Space development

Occupants of No. 70	
1871	Frank Chessell
1891-96	George Lee
1896-1900	George Anscombe
1901-37	William Henry Vowler
1938	Henry Rea
1939-50	Alfred Thomas
1953-64	Mrs Naomi M Thomas
1968-76	Lionel Albert Lutley
2013-16	Thompson House
2017-	Space development

## No. 72

John Brown was a dairyman, born in Hersham. In about 1880 he established the dairy in Chertsey Road at No. 72. When he retired in about 1895, his son, also John, carried on the business.

John Lutley, a Devonshire-born dairyman took over the dairy in 1906, calling it the Devonshire Creamery.

John Lutley died in 1928, aged 74. The dairy was closed down.

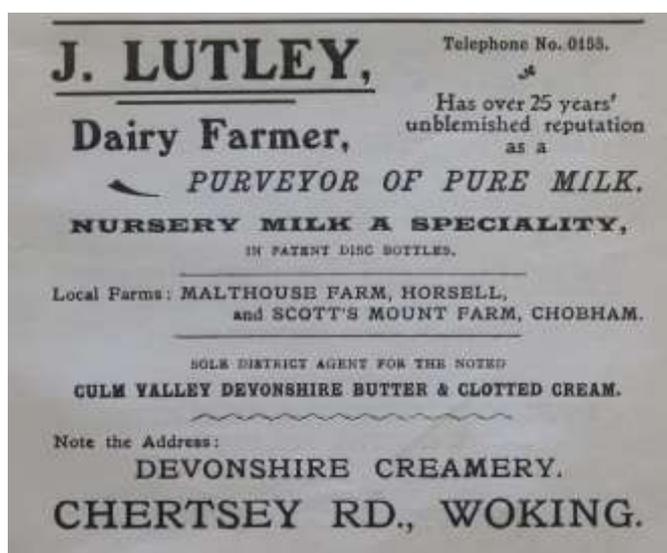


Figure 358. John Lutley advertisement

<sup>107</sup> Today, it seems to us that Victorian people often remarried with indecent haste, however a widower with a young family would need someone to look after his children

The next occupant of No. 72 was Leslie Cecil Beckley, trading as the Chevron Tyre Company, who moved in in 1932. Leslie Beckley filed for Bankruptcy in August 1940<sup>108</sup>.

By 1943, the building had reverted to use as a dairy, then being occupied by Renshaw & Trigg.

Frederick A Stubbington took over the building, in 1950, and established a newsagent and tobacconist's shop.

The building was demolished in the mid-1970s, along with no. 74, and Trizancia House built on the site, which housed Woking Social Services Centre and was itself demolished in 2019.

Occupants of No. 72	
1881-1905	John Brown, dairyman
1906-1929	Devonshire Creamery (John Lutley)
1930-31	<i>vacant</i>
1932-40	Chevron Tyre Co.
1943-48	Renshaw & Trigg, dairymen
1949	Graham Fisheries
1950-68	Frederick A Stubbington, newsagent & tobacconist

### **No. 74 – ‘Laurel Cottage’**

Laurel Cottage was built between 1880 and 1890, by John Rose. In 1891, it was occupied by John's son, Thomas Rose, and his wife Harriet. A brewer and beer retailer, Thomas moved to Woking when he retired.

Thomas Rose died in January 1900 and Harriet in 1909, when the house passed to their son, Thomas Henry Rose, who lived there with his wife Ada May.

Thomas Henry died in 1921 and Ada remarried, in 1922, to Alfred Butt. Alfred died in 1927 and Ada in 1929.

There followed a number of occupants of Laurel Cottage, each of whom stayed for just a few years.

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<sup>108</sup> *London Gazette* 13 August 1940

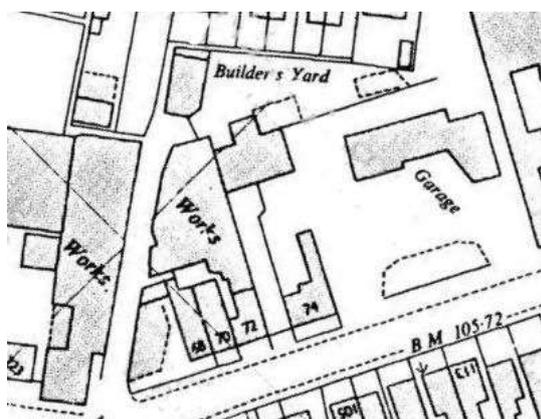


Figure 359. Map of No. 74

In about 1950 George Loveland acquired Laurel Cottage and established a builder's yard behind it (see Figure 359). Although the address of the business appeared as No. 74, it is thought that Laurel Cottage was not used in connection with the business.

Laurel Cottage was demolished in the mid-1970s, along with no. 72. Trizancia House was built on the site, which housed Woking Social Services Centre.

Trizancia House was itself demolished in 2019.

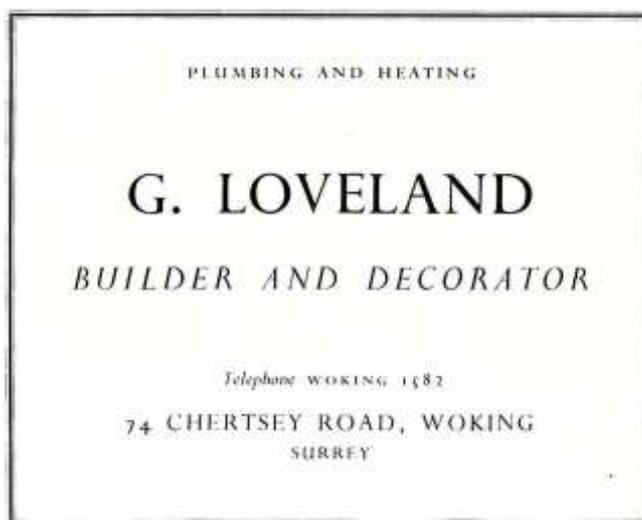


Figure 360. G Loveland advertisement



Figure 361. Trizancia House

Occupants of No. 74	
1891-1900	Thomas Rose
1900-09	Mrs Harriet Rose
1909-19	Thomas Henry Rose
1919-22	Mrs Ada May Rose
1922-29	Alfred & Ada Butt
1931	Justin A G Barber
1934-37	E Pelham
1939	Dr L J Hecht
1943-50	Walter J Bulmer
1954-72	G Loveland Ltd, builder

## No.s 76-86

No.s 76-86 were three pairs of semi-detached cottages built in the 1880s, by John Rose, named York Villas, Clifton Villas and Rose Villas. A sales brochure from 1946 (Figure 362) gives a description of the layout.

For Investment and Future Development.

**PARTICULARS**

LOT 3.

**THE VALUABLE FREEHOLD  
MAIN ROAD PROPERTY**

— comprising —

**Nos. 76 to 86 (even) CHERTSEY ROAD,  
WOKING**

Well situated in one of the principal approaches to Woking, in the business part of the Town, and consisting of Three Pairs of semi-detached Cottages, each containing :

**Ground Floor.**  
**Front Sitting Room**, fitted fireplace.  
**Back Sitting Room**, fitted range or tiled fireplace.  
**Scullery**, fitted sink and copper. Larder.

**First Floor.**  
**3 Bedrooms**, 2 fitted fireplaces.

**Outside.**  
W.C. and Coal Store. Good Garden.

COMPANY'S WATER. MAIN DRAINAGE. GAS AND/OR ELECTRIC LIGHT INSTALLED.

Nos. 76 & 78 are let at 13/10 per week. No. 80 at 13/6 per week.  
Nos. 82, 84 & 86 at 13/4 per week.

Thus producing **£211 - 0 - 8** per annum  
(Landlord paying Outgoings).

Rateable Assessment : Nos. 76 & 78 £19. Nos. 80, 82, 84, & 86 £17.

Combined General Rate for Current Year £39.  
Water Rate £10 - 6 - 0 per annum.

**The Property has a frontage to the main road of about 125ft. and a depth of about 120ft., thus affording a Valuable Site for future development, being scheduled under the Town Planning for Business purposes and light industry.**

Figure 362. 1946 Sales details

## No.s 76 & 78 – ‘York Villas’

York Villas were a pair of semi-detached cottages built in about 1875, by John Rose. The first record of any occupation is in 1878. In an annual report for the Prudential Assurance Company, an F Rapley is listed as an Assistant Superintendent of Agents; his address appears as ‘York Villas, Chertsey Road, Woking Station’<sup>109</sup>.

Both cottages remained as private residential houses until 1964. In an auction sale of 1946, the cottages are described as having front and rear sitting rooms and a scullery on the ground floor and 3 bedrooms on the first floor (two with fitted fireplaces).

The cottages were demolished in the mid-1960s along with No.s 80-86, for the building of Woking Garage, also known as Chertsey Road Service Station.

	Occupants of 76	Occupants of 78
1878-79	F Rapley	
1880		Stephen Moon
1881	Thomas Sewell	
1882-87	Joseph Bates	George Willis
1888-1900	Mrs Sarah Bates	Charles Dyson
1901		
1902-03		
1904-06	Walter T Colborne	James Howard
1907-08	George R Cockell	
1909-14	Alfred E G Tappenden	
1915-17		
1918-39		H A Thompson / Mrs B Thompson
1940-42		
1943-58		Harry W Squire
1959-64		<i>Presumed vacant</i>

Chertsey Road Service Station, run by Pearce & Nicholls, moved to Goldsworth Road in about 1980 (confusingly keeping its name). The buildings in Chertsey Road were demolished and Chester House was built on the site.

<sup>109</sup> Surrey Advertiser 23 March 1878



Figure 363. Chertsey Road Service Station (Woking Garage) in about 1967

Chester House is itself now likely to be redeveloped. There is a 'contemporary design' proposal for a residential tower development, comprising 20 storeys with 260 apartments.



Figure 364. Chester House 2018

### **No.s 80 & 82 – 'Clifton Villas'**

Clifton Villas were a pair of semi-detached cottages built in about 1875, by John Rose. Both cottages remained as private residential houses until 1964. In an auction sale of 1946, the cottages are described as having front and rear sitting rooms and a scullery on the ground floor and 3 bedrooms on the first floor (two with fitted fireplaces).

The cottages were demolished in the 1960s along with No.s 76, 78 & 84-86, for the building of Woking Garage (see page 201).

	Occupants of 80	Occupants of 82
1877-79	John C Jarman	
1880-84		John Simmonds
1885-87		
1888-91		
1892-95		Charles Colborne
1896	Harvey Ledger	
1897-99		
1900		Arthur Dury
1901-1931		Charles E Tappenden / Mrs Florence M Tappenden
1932-64	Bernard V G Raggett	

### **No.s 84 & 86 – ‘Rose Villas’**

Rose Villas were a pair of semi-detached cottages built in about 1875, by John Rose. The first record of any occupation is in the 1881 census. Both cottages remained as private residential houses until 1964. In an auction sale of 1946, the cottages are described as having front and rear sitting rooms and a scullery on the ground floor and 3 bedrooms on the first floor (two with fitted fireplaces).

The cottages were demolished in the 1960s along with No.s 76, 78 & 84-86, for the building of Woking Garage (see page 201).

	Occupants of 84	Occupants of 86
1877-80	Robert Chalk	
1881-96		
1900-01	William Belton	James R Curtis
1905	C Lovelock	
1914	B Blake	
1918	William Lewis	J Strode
1919-20		
1921	C Bennett	
1922-38	George Coates	
1939-64		Frederick A Johnson

### **No. 88**

Number 88 Chertsey Road was built in the 1880s as a private house. In the 1891 census, George Farmer, a railway guard, and his family are living in the house.

By 1900, it is described as ‘Simonds Ale House’ and Thomas Steer was the manager<sup>110</sup>. Within a few years the site had become a bottling plant and regional distribution centre for the Reading brewery of H & G Simonds Ltd, the original house being incorporated into the offices.

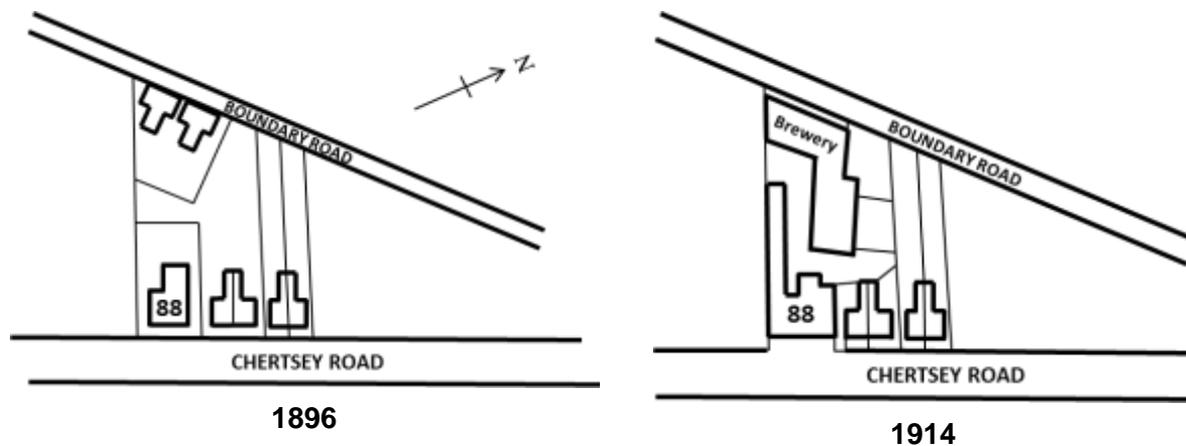


Figure 365. Plans of 88 Chertsey Road 1896 & 1914

In August 1826, substantial improvements to the plant were started: ‘The scheme of alterations sanctioned recently by the Firm was duly commenced at the end of August, The accommodation of the Branch will thus be brought up to present requirements. The large loading stage and Cellar that have been planned will reduce unnecessary labour to a minimum, and the garage in front of same will be commodious and will bring all vehicles to the point where they are needed. A new bottle wash-house will be built, and the much-needed increase in accommodation for bottling, storing and packing of bottled beers has been provided for. The Woking Branch covers a large area in its distribution of the products of the Firm and will, when the alterations are completed, be better able to cope with the business.’<sup>111</sup> The work was carried out by Mess.<sup>rs</sup> J Harris & Son of Woking.

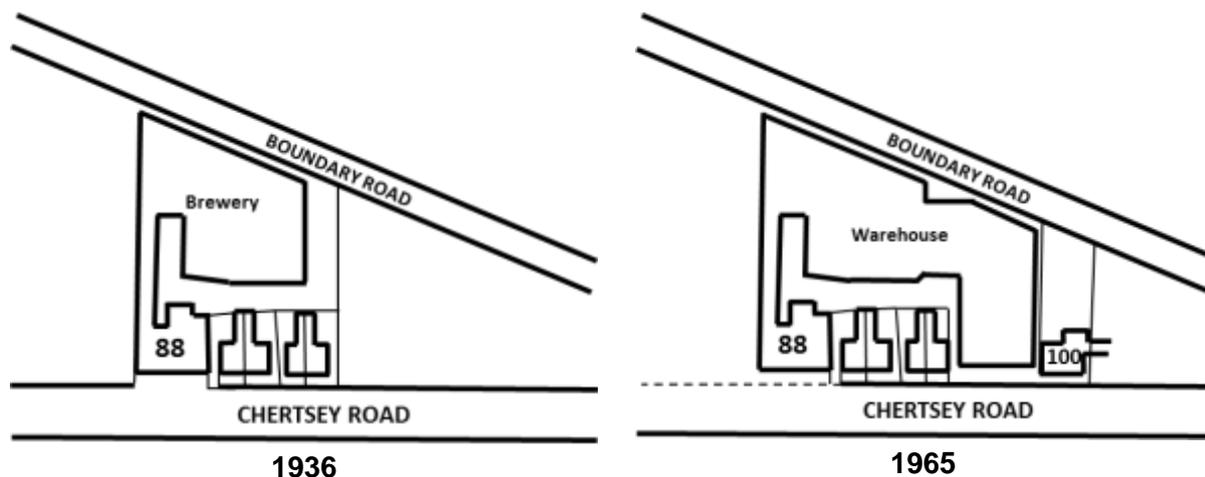


Figure 366. Plans of 88 Chertsey Road 1936 & 1965

<sup>110</sup> Woking Street Directory 1900; 1901 Census

<sup>111</sup> Hop Leaf Gazette Issue 1, October 1826

In the summer of 1926, the brewery was requested to supply marquees for shelter and refreshment (presumably non-alcoholic) to the Shah Jehan Mosque for a Moslem Festival held there<sup>112</sup>.



Figure 367. Marquees at the Moslem Festival 1926

The Woking depot delivered to an area which extended to Kingston in the north, Redhill to the east, and to Petersfield, Midhurst and Haywards Heath in the south.<sup>113</sup>



Figure 368. Simonds's steam tractor for deliveries<sup>114</sup>

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<sup>112</sup> *Hop Leaf Gazette Issue 2*, November 1826

<sup>113</sup> *Hop Leaf Gazette Issue 6*, March 1827

<sup>114</sup> In the many photographs of Simonds's vehicles, the signage on the vehicle is usually 'H & G Simonds Ltd. Brewers Reading'. This is the only one that mentions Woking; it is likely therefore that this vehicle was based at Woking and the photograph taken at Woking.

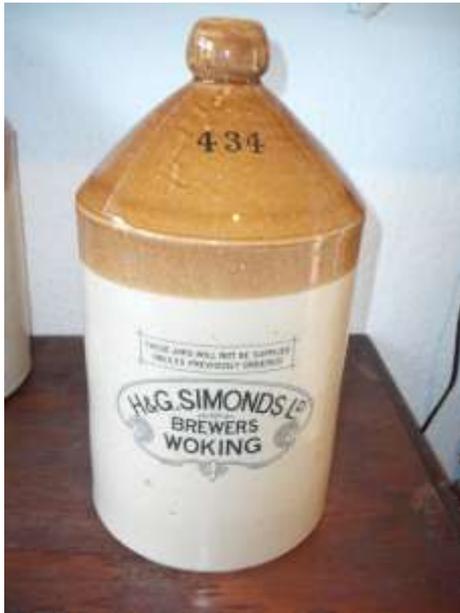


Figure 369. Stoneware jugs featuring Simonds advertising

By about 1950, the improvements in transport and transport infrastructure meant that there was no longer a need for Simonds to maintain the Woking distribution centre and it was closed.

In the 1950s it was used as a warehouse by the wholesale grocers, Harvey, Bradfield & Toyer. The complex now encircled, on three sides, No.s 90-96 Chertsey Road and No. 98 had been demolished for an extension to the warehouse (see Figure 366).

Occupants of No. 88	
1891	George Farmer
1901-1948	H & G Simonds Ltd, brewers, wine and spirit importers
1954-57	Harvey, Bradfield & Toyer, wholesale grocers

The warehouse was disused by 1965 and the site was demolished in the early 1970s as part of the Brook House development. Brook House itself was demolished and rebuilt at the turn of the millennium.



Figure 370. Brook House c.1974

## No.s 90 & 92 – ‘Strawberry Villas’

Strawberry Villas were a pair of semi-detached cottages built in the (probably late) 1870s. The first record of any occupation is in the 1881 census. Both cottages remained as private residential houses until about 1970.

The cottages were demolished in the early 1970s as part of the Brook House development. Brook House itself was demolished and rebuilt at the turn of the millennium.



Figure 371. Brook House 2018

	Occupants of 90	Occupants of 92
1881	William Baker	John Watts
1882-1886		
1887-90		George Russell
1891-1903		George Raggett
1904		
1905-06	William Green	
1907	William E Dean	
1908-09		H Hutchings
1910-11	George Moore	William G Taplin
1912-13		

1914-29	Mrs Wells	
1930-56	Victor M Hammerton	
1956-62		
1963-64	<i>Presumed vacant</i>	John W Shaw
1968		<i>vacant</i>

### No.s 94 & 96 – ‘Holly Cottages’

Holly Cottages were a pair of semi-detached cottages built in the (probably late) 1870s. The first record of any occupation is in the 1881 census. Both cottages remained as private residential houses until about 1970.

The cottages were demolished in the early 1970s as part of the Brook House development. Brook House itself was demolished and rebuilt at the turn of the millennium.

	Occupants of 94	Occupants of 96
1881-83	John Elkington	George J Lewis
1889-91	Charles Smallbone	
1891-94		Alfred Gayton
1901	Horace Pollard	Henry Morley
1902-06		William Charles Maslen
1907-18		Mrs Annie Maslen
1919-21		
1921-22	H Pavey	
1923-30		Alfred J Brooker
1930-39	Mrs Ethel M Pavey	
1939-42		
1943-56		James Stillwell
1957-58		
1962	Alfred J Nelson	Gerald Martin

### No. 98 – ‘Halcyon Cottage’

Halcyon Cottage was built *circa* 1868. The first occupant was the Victorian artist Edward Masters. Edward Masters mainly painted scenes of farm and village life in Surrey. His popularity as a painter flourished between 1869 and 1875, coinciding with his residence in Woking; he exhibited at the Royal Society of British Artists in 1869.

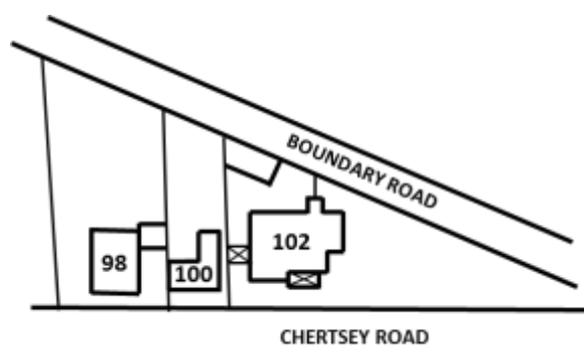


Figure 372. Plan of No.s 98-102



Figure 373. Typical scene of country life painted by Edward Masters

After Edward Master's death in 1880, his widow, Amelia, continued to live in Halcyon Cottage for the next twenty-five years. It was then inherited by his son, Edward junior, who was also a landscape painter.

Occupants of Halcyon Cottage	
1870-80	Edward Masters
1880-1904	Mrs Amelia Masters
1905-1930	Edward Masters junior
1931-34	J M Wilson
1937	F W Hunt
1939	Frederick Stokell
1943-56	Mrs Elizabeth Moorhen

The house was demolished in the 1950s and the land used for part of a warehouse. The warehouse was demolished in the early 1970s for the Brook House development. Brook House itself was demolished and rebuilt at the turn of the millennium.

### **No. 100 - Heath Cottage**

Heath Cottage was built in the 1880s. The first occupant, listed in the 1891 census, was John G Coombs, a florist, who lived in the house from 1888 to 1903. By 1908, Dr. George Cressy, who ran a surgery next door in No. 102, lived in Heath Cottage and, apparently, had a connecting corridor between the two (shown on OS Plan of 1914).

In 1911, Lionel Moss Godwin moved in. Lionel ran an art-metal and casement manufactory business at No. 85 Chertsey Road (see page 92). He lived in Heath Cottage until his death in 1957.

The house was demolished in the early 1970s as part of the Brook House development. Brook House itself was demolished and rebuilt at the turn of the millennium.

Occupants of Heath Cottage	
1888-1903	John G Coombs
1908	Dr George John Cressy
1911-1957	Lionel Moss Godwin
1962	Nicholas H Godfrey

### **No. 102 – ‘Bridge View’/‘Voltage’**

No. 102 Chertsey Road was built in the 1880s. The (probably first) occupant, listed in the 1891 census, was Edward Christopher Claxton Boyle, a coffee planter. The house was named Bridge View as it was the nearest plot (on the western side of the road) to Chertsey Road Bridge over the Basingstoke Canal, to which it had an uninterrupted view.

By 1896, Anthony New had bought the house. He was an electrical engineer and renamed the house ‘Voltage’. From 1901 to 1905, Anthony New rented the house to Dr. Archibald Houghton Brown who used it as a surgery. By 1908, the surgery was being run by Dr. George Cressy, who lived in Heath Cottage and, apparently, had a connecting corridor between the two (shown on OS Plan of 1914).

In about 1925 Walter Frederick Pearce, who had purchased it a couple of years earlier, divided the plot of land and built a motor garage in the junction of Chertsey Road and Boundary Road, which became no. 104.

Occupants of No. 102	
1888-91	Edward Christopher Claxton Boyle
1896-1900	Anthony G New
1901-06	Dr Archibald Houghton Brown
1908	Dr George John Cressy
1911	Francis Derry
1918-21	Mrs May Francis Eva Miller
1923-39	Walter F Pearce
1949-64	Basil E Dearden

The house was demolished in the 1970s to make way for the Brook House roundabout at the junction of Victoria Way with Commercial Road.

## No. 104

In about 1925 Walter Pearce, who had recently purchased no. 102, divided the plot of land and built a motor garage in the junction of Chertsey Road and Boundary Road at what became no. 104.

The plot was redeveloped in the 1970s for the Brook House roundabout at the junction of Victoria Way with Commercial Road.

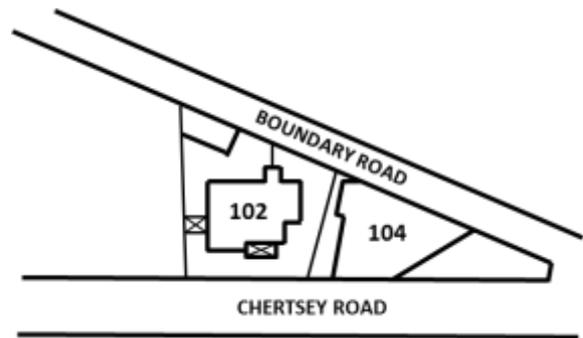


Figure 374. Plan of no. 104

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

British Newspaper Archive

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Raymond Simonds's website - <https://simondsfamily.me.uk>

Catherine Richardson

Iain Wakeford

1:2500 Ordnance Survey Plans for 1871, 1896, 1914, 1935, 1965 and 1976 have been used extensively

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