

20 High Street, Cowbridge

Nos 16 to 30 are grade II listed for their group value. All were originally Carne properties, leased or conveyed by Richard Franklen of Clemenstone in 1830 -40

- 1838 Lease, Richard Franklen of Clemenstone to Wm Williams of Cowbridge, carpenter, piece of land W of house and garden of Thomas Davies, surgeon... *D/D Cl 1-17*
- 1841 (relating to 22 High St)., ground devised by R Franklen to Morgan Williams, carpenter, and on which Morgan Williams has erected a dwelling house *D/D Cl 1-17*
- 1843 Morgan Williams, owned and occ, Royal Oak *Tithe*
- 1851 Morgan Williams, 44, publican and wheelwright, emp 1 man, b Llandough + wife (Margaret, 49, b. Llanblethian) + son (David, 13, b Cowbridge) + servant + lodger, Royal Oak *Census#75*
- 1861 David Williams, 35, victualler and omnibus driver, b Colwinston + wife (Mary, 46, b.Cowbridge) + son (William, 7, b Cowbridge), Royal Oak *Census# 182*
- 1871 David Williams + wife + son + sister-in-law (Ann Thomas, 63, b Cowbridge)], Royal Oak *Census# 196*

1880

David Williams, landlord of the Royal Oak was charged on 4th October with unlawfully selling liquor not of the natural substance and quality demanded. The defendant, who was ill and unable to attend, was represented by his nephew Edward John.

Supt. Thomas stated that on 4th October he was at the Royal Oak. The landlady was present. He asked her for half a pint of gin. She gave it out of a bottle and he paid 1/-. He then informed her that he would be sending it to Cardiff to be analysed and asked if she wanted it to be divided in two. She replied "No. It is very little we sell here. We don't sell a quart of gin in a month".

The Supt. produced a certificate showing that the sample was 12 degrees below proof. The standard was 33 degrees below proof. Williams was found guilty and fined 50/-.

Edward John said that he did not see why a little house like that should be picked out in preference to larger house. He might have bought the spirits in the same state as he sold them. The Bench said that it was a very dishonest practice to sell water for spirits to poor people. Mr. John said that he did not think that he sold very much to poor or to rich people.

The Bench said that he had laid himself open to a penalty of £20.

12th November 1880, Central Glamorgan Gazette.

- 1881 D Williams (+ wife + son William, draper's assistant), Royal Oak *Census#67*
- 1891 Mary Williams, 76, + son, Royal Oak *Census#65*
- 1895 William Williams *Slater's*
- 1901 William Roberts, licensed victualler, 34, b Cowbridge + w (Sarah, 35, b Aberaman) + 3s (Albert, 12, William, 10, and Frederick, 8, all b Cowbridge) *Census#135*
- 1901/6 William Roberts, Royal Oak *Kelly's*
- 1910 Stephen Fitzgerald occ, L Jenkins, owned , [Franklen, ground landlord] Royal Oak *D/D PRO/VAL/1/46*
- 1912 William Thomas, Royal Oak Inn *W. Mail Directory*
- 1914 William Brown, Royal Oak *Kelly's*
- 1920 CL John, Royal Oak public house *do*
- 1921 David & Elizabeth Collier, Royal Oak *Electoral roll*
- Collier - token issued
Access to stables via archway between 24 and 28 High Street *Miss Hilda Collier*
Photo available of Mrs Collier and baby Hilda at rear of Royal Oak
- 1923 William Rees, Royal Oak *Kelly's*

- 1926-8 Evan Giles *Electoral register*
- 1928 Licence extinguished
£480 compensation *PRO/IR 58/ 18459 #82*
Glamorgan Gazette, 20/7/28
- 1947 Albert and Mary Sanders, Old Royal Oak *Electoral register*
- 1948 Reg Sanders (bee keeper in Town Mill Rd)
Seats built around the window. Cellar used to get flooded
Alan (Reg's son) and Eva Sanders
- 1999 Gaskell and Walker - solicitors
- 2012 Large extension built to accommodate W H Smith's, stationers shop.

Sources/abbreviations :

GRO Glamorgan Record Office

PRO Public Record Office (Kew)

D/D Deposits held in GRO

LTA Land tax assessments (GRO)

BR Burgage rents (GRO)

Tithe, census, electoral registers, directories (eg Kelly's) – in GRO