

A HISTORY OF CROSSWAYS

57 BATH ROAD, CHELTENHAM
GLOUCESTERSHIRE



ROSE HEWLETT

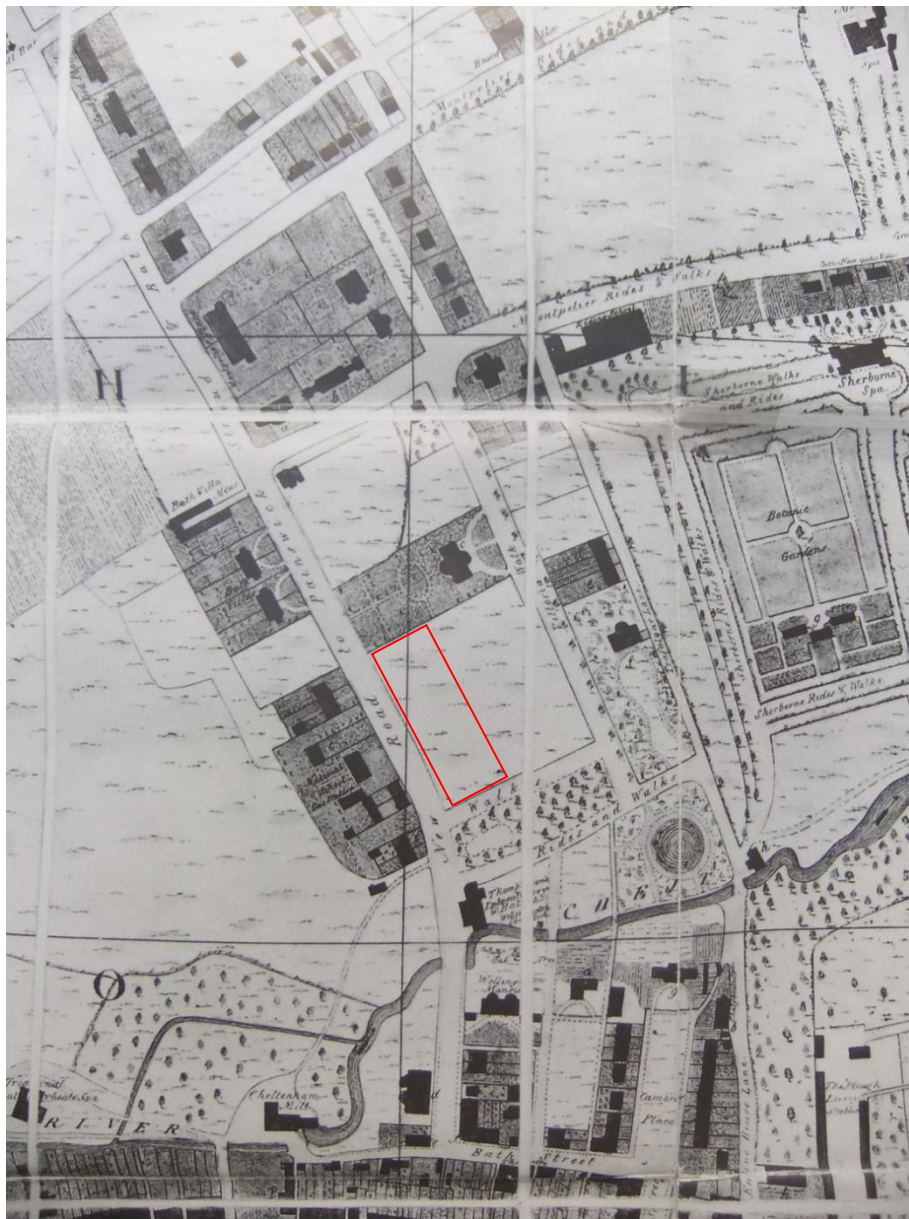
GLOUCESTERSHIRE HOUSE HISTORIES

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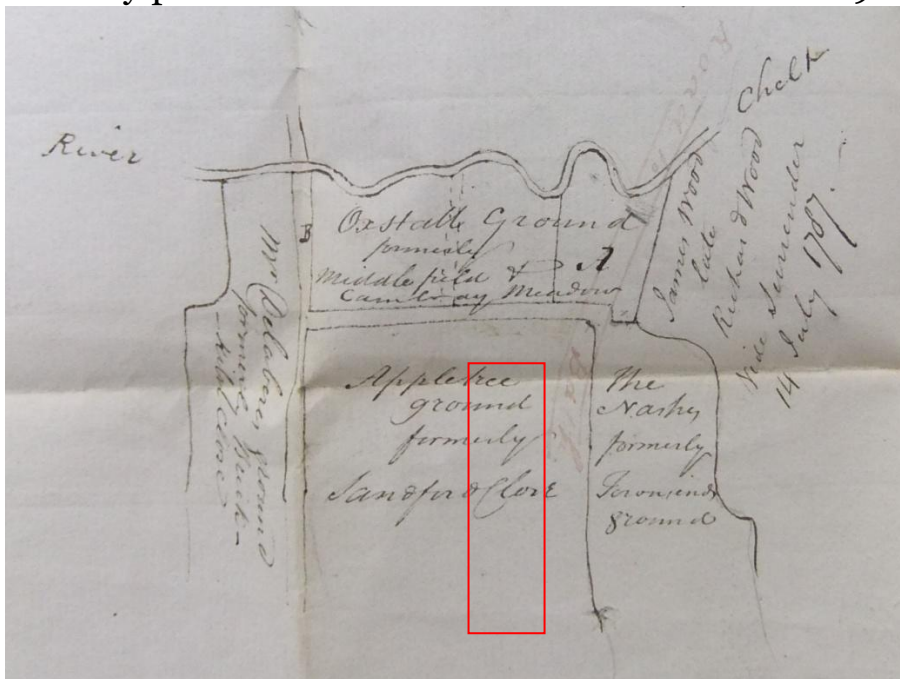
Oriel Place, Bath Road, Cheltenham, 1855

CROSSWAYS, ALSO KNOWN AS 1 ORIEL PLACE and 57 Bath Road, was built on Apple Tree Ground, a field that once formed part of the manor of Cheltenham. E. Cossens' *Lithographic Plan of the Town of Cheltenham*, published by the Post Office in 1820, shows the 'New Road to Painswick, Stroud & Bath' running beside land already earmarked for development, as indeed much of the Montpellier estate was at this time.



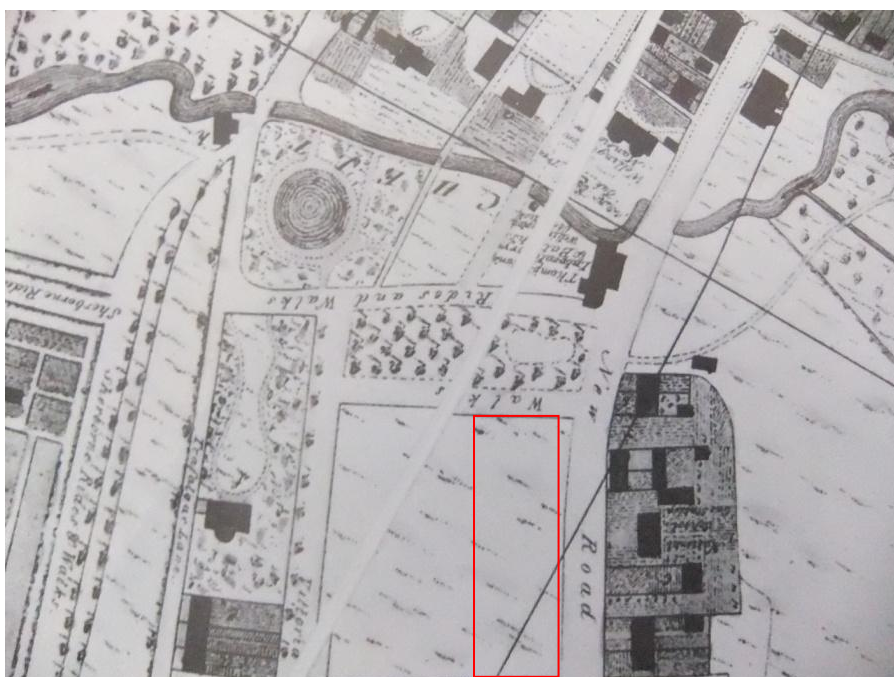
**E. Cossens' *Lithographic Plan of the Town of Cheltenham*, 1820;
the site of Oriel Place is outlined in red**

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, when the qualities of Cheltenham's mineral waters were being realised, Henry Thompson (a somewhat mysterious figure variously described as a wealthy merchant, a banker and an underwriter) speculatively bought almost 400 acres of land adjoining the Old Well and Bayshill. With the intention of developing a new spa and rides, by 1804 he had built Hygeia House (later Vittoria House) as a spa house on part of Apple Tree Ground, itself formerly part of Sandford Close. A document of 1829 includes a sketch of



the area around Oriel Place in 1806 with the 'Road to Bath' (built 1813) superimposed on the drawing.

By comparing this with the 1820 map, and in particular looking at the shape of 'The Nashes', it is possible to see where Oriel Place was later to be built (outlined in red on both images).



Henry Thompson expended a great deal of time and money on finding the best water supply possible, and when this materialised around five



years later on the site which was to become Montpellier Spa with its

famous rotunda, he built a pump room there. At this time Henry Thompson converted Hygeia House to his private residence where he lived with his wife Judith (née Techmaker) until his death in 1820 at the age of 72. He bequeathed Judith the furniture and one year's further residence at the house after which the property passed jointly to their two sons, Henry Techmaker Thompson of Cockermouth, and Pearson Thompson of Cheltenham.



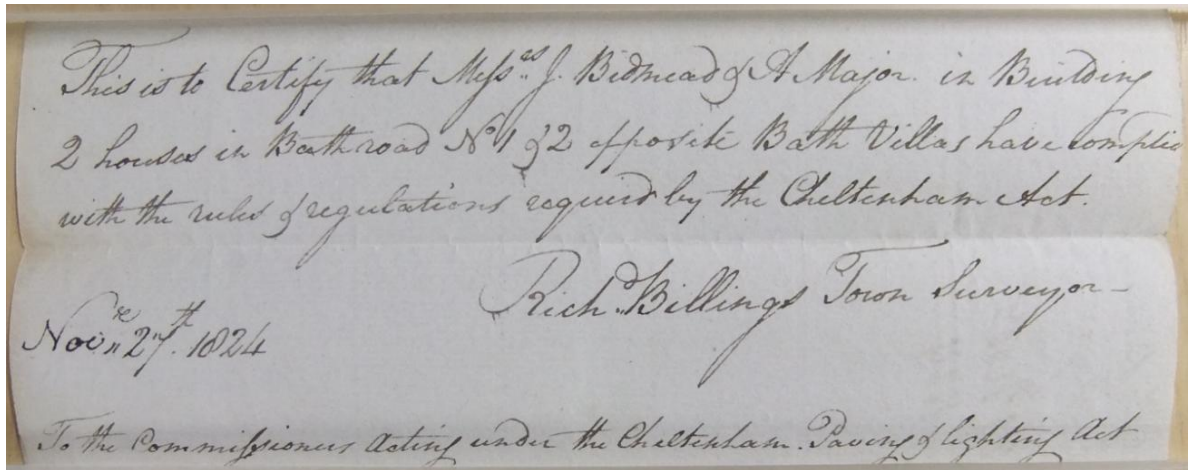
The Thompson brothers were keen to protect the interests and investments of their father, particularly of Montpellier Spa, and Pearson Thompson (shown left) took over the development of the Montpellier estate with the same type of enthusiasm being shown by his counterpart, Joseph Pitt, who was already planning his own new estate on the north side of Cheltenham. Like Henry

Thompson, Joseph Pitt had acquired farmland and sought the right place to create a new spa. His vision was to build 'Pittville' as a new spa town 'rivalling its parent Cheltenham both in extent and importance'. The foundation stone of Pittville Pump Room was laid in 1825.

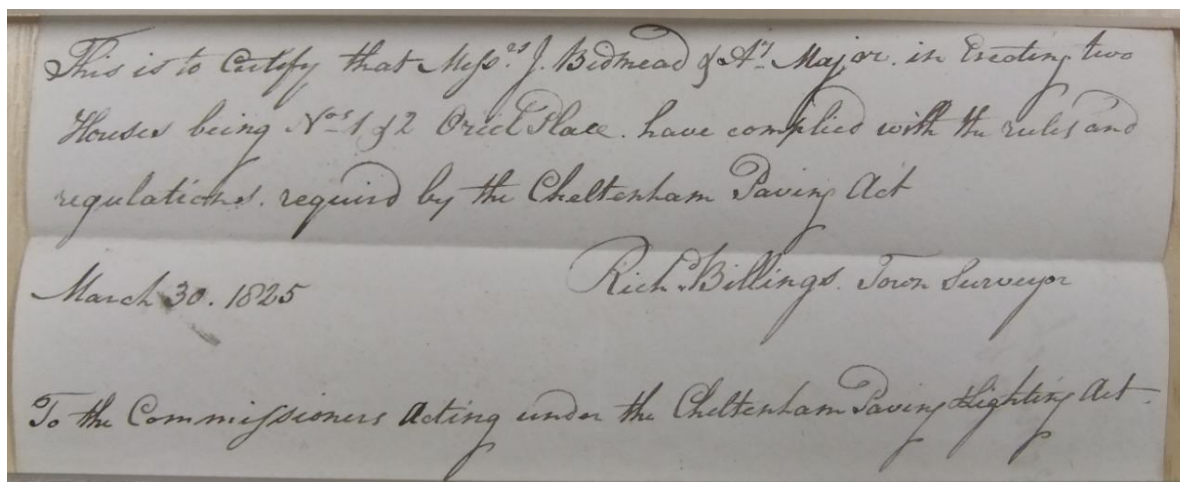
The first direct mention of 1 and 2 Oriel Place is found in a deed of covenant dated 9 October 1824. These two 'messuages and premises' had been erected by Mr Anthony Major and Joseph Bidmead respectively, on two parcels of land purchased by them from Charles Sheldon Timins. At this time the Revd Jenkin Thomas, a dissenting minister of Cheltenham, owned 1 Oriel Place and Rayner Winterbotham, also of Cheltenham, was the owner of number 2. Some, if not all, of these men were involved in the developing property market in Cheltenham. The deed relates the several covenants and agreements that they were under which included maintaining the original exteriors and elevations of the properties, and that no building should be erected behind or westward of them. They were also to ensure the rendering was kept in repair, that no additional windows were inserted on the two end walls of the building, and that the boundary walls were kept at their present height. Finally, the owners and their heirs and assigns also had to covenant that none of the following trades could be carried on at the premises: 'butcher, distiller, brewer, alehouse keeper, tavern, gin shop keeper, soap boiler, tallow chandler, sugar baker, household broker, dealer in old iron, farrier, working cutler, hatter, whitesmith or blacksmith, coppersmith, gold-beater, brazier, tinman, plumber, glazier, dyer or any noisy, noisome or offensive trade or business whatsoever,' nor were they permitted to carry out any other act or matter that could be deemed a nuisance to the neighbouring property!

Surviving building certificates for Oriel Place cover a period from 28 August 1824 to 29 January 1827, some (including those for 1 Oriel Place) appear in duplicate. Those for numbers 1, 2 and 5-11 date to 1824, numbers 3 and 4 to 1825, and number 12 to 1826, although it must be

noted that the extant records may not represent the full set of original certificates.



This is to Certify that Mess^{rs} J. Bidmead & A. Major. in Building
2 houses in Bath road N^o 32 opposite Bath Villas have complied
with the rules & regulations required by the Cheltenham Act.
Nov^r 27. 1824
Rich^d Billings Town Surveyor -
To the Commissioners acting under the Cheltenham Paving & Lighting Act



This is to Certify that Mess^{rs} J. Bidmead & A. Major. in erecting two
Houses being N^o 1 & 2 Oriel Place. have complied with the rules and
regulations required by the Cheltenham Paving Act
March 30. 1825
Rich^d Billings Town Surveyor
To the Commissioners acting under the Cheltenham Paving & Lighting Act.

**Building certificates issued in 1824 and 1825 for 1 & 2 Oriel Place.
These certified that Messrs J. Bidmead and A. Major had erected the two
houses in compliance with the rules and regulations required by the
Cheltenham Paving & Lighting Act.**

To the Cheltenham Paving Commissioners.

I, the undersigned RICHARD BILLINGS, late Surveyor for the purposes generally of the Act of Parliament hereinafter mentioned, and now the Surveyor appointed by the Commissioners acting under the same Act for Surveying New Buildings within the limits of the Town of Cheltenham, do hereby certify to the said Commissioners, that I have viewed and surveyed the *Messuage* *Drilling house* situate in *Place No 1* within the limits of the said Town of Cheltenham, and lately erected by, *M. Anthony Major* and that the same hath been completed and finished with Party Walls of the thickness of *fourteen* inches, and in all respects agreeably to the directions and regulations of the Act of Parliament passed in the second year of the reign of his present Majesty, for Paving and Lighting the Town of Cheltenham aforesaid.—Witness my hand this *29th* day of *January* 1827.

Richd Billings

As the Montpellier and Pittville estates grew, the development of new squares, walks and rides overlooked by fashionable terraced buildings and detached villas was greatly affected by the economic climate of the mid-1820s. In 1825 the stock market crashed with the consequent loss of around seventy banks, and many of the Cheltenham builders and speculators went bankrupt. Sometimes properties were left half-constructed for long periods of time, and many terraces were built piecemeal. To preserve the integrity of the designs envisioned by Pearson

Thompson and Joseph Pitt in their respective Cheltenham estates, uniformity of architectural style was a paramount consideration, and deeds of covenant such as that which survives for 10 September 1829 ensured that the rest of Oriel Place would be built at the same elevation as 1 and 2 Oriel Place, and with the same 'handsome' and 'neat' appearance. It was also covenanted that any new property should be built and roofed within eighteen months of its start date.

The proximity of the Montpellier Baths warranted a special covenant to ensure that none of the Oriel Place properties could be used 'for the purpose of public baths, or as a shop or shops, or for the vending, selling, bartering, exchanging, offering for sale, manufacturing, depositing or receiving in pledge any article or thing whatsoever'. Pearson Thompson certainly didn't want to lower the tone of such residences!

An undated mid-nineteenth-century inventory of 7 Oriel Place lists the contents of its various rooms and gives an insight into its layout which from the top of the house to the bottom was: servant's chamber, front chamber, dressing room, linen closet, back chamber, chamber on staircase, water closet, hall and staircase, double parlours (perhaps suggesting they could be linked), back parlour, lower passage, butler's pantry, larder, housekeeper's room, kitchen, scullery, outer larder and a court which contained a water butt and water closet. The inventory includes five bells from various rooms located in the lower passage, locks and keys to the two entrance gates, two doors to coal arches and a brass bell pull. While it cannot be certain that 1 Oriel Place shared all these rooms and features, it nevertheless may have been similar given the style and size of the two buildings.

The 1841 census listed the residents of 1 Oriel Place on the night of 6 June as Edward and Mary Synge aged approximately 55 and 45 respectively and Helen (about 20 years old) their daughter. Edward was of 'independent means', and they were attended by two servants, Maria Smith and Sarah Webb. Sir Edward Synge, baronet of Kiltrough, County Meath, from 1804 had married Mary Helena Welsh at St Mary de Lode, Gloucester, in 1809 and served as High Sheriff of County Cork in 1844.

In 1834, 2 Oriel Place had been let for an annual rental of £80, and it can be supposed that a similar rate was charged to James Uglow, the tenant of 1 Oriel Place during the latter part of 1841. Uglow, by then in his late twenties, was a teacher of music. On Tuesday 30 June 1835, when organist of St James, Cheltenham, Uglow promoted a 'Music Festival', an event 'upon a grand and extensive scale' which consisted of a morning concert of vocal solos and choral works at St James, and a miscellaneous instrumental concert in the evening at the Montpellier Rotunda. By Cheltenham standards the morning event was a large-scale affair with Uglow's own singers augmented by the choirs of Gloucester and Worcester cathedrals and the Bath Choral Society; among the soloists was the up and coming English soprano, Clare Novello. The *Cheltenham Looker-On*, however, found the singers short of adequate rehearsal and their audience disappointingly small, but the evening performance was well attended and musically more successful. This initiative led Uglow to set up the Cheltenham Philharmonic Society two years later, and no doubt his concerts of both amateur and professional musicians added greatly to the gaiety of the Cheltenham music scene, especially throughout the 1830s and 40s. The *Daily Era* of 12 December 1841 described him as a talented musician, a fine organist, violinist and cellist.

FASHIONABLE AMUSEMENTS.

A Concert was given at the residence of Mr. Uglow, 1, Oriel Place, on Friday evening last by himself and Sen. De Castro, and a very fashionable affair it really was, but we regret to say the attendance was not so good as we had expected from the attractions held forth in the programme. We have only space to say that Messrs. Sapio, Uglow, Royal, De Castro, and Miss Davis, were all received, as they well deserve to be, and the performance seemed to give to every one present the fullest satisfaction.

Cheltenham Examiner, 27 October 1841

Nevertheless, such activities proved expensive to run and Uglow, who had underwritten the 1835 festival and other events, was unable to neither successfully manage these endeavours financially nor satisfactorily supplement his income from playing, teaching and selling musical scores: at one stage he was declared bankrupt.

In October 1841, James Uglow's 'fashionable' concert at 1 Oriel Place gave everyone present 'the fullest satisfaction', and a couple of months later he gave a farewell concert at the Assembly Rooms as he prepared to leave for Ireland (although he soon returned to Cheltenham). Among the principal performers was Gustavus Valentine von Holst (born 1799 in Riga, Latvia, and died in 1870 in Cheltenham), the grandfather of the more famous Gustav Holst, composer of *The Planets*.

THE
CHELTENHAM LOOKER-ON;

A Note Book of Fashionable Sayings and Doings.

THIRD SERIES, NO. CLV.

Original Series, }
No. CCCLXXXVI. }

DEC. 18, 1841.

{ Price 3d.
STAMPED. }

ASSEMBLY ROOMS, CHELTENHAM.

The Nobility and Gentry are most respectfully informed, that the

ANNUAL JUVENILE BALL

will take place on MONDAY, Dec. 27th.

DANCING TO COMMENCE AT EIGHT O'CLOCK PRECISELY.

Capt. A. H. KIRWAN, M.C.

It is particularly requested by the Committee of Amusements, and by the other two Committees, that the Ladies and Gentlemen of Cheltenham, will not have private Parties on the Monday night of the Balls. Such Parties being very injurious to them. It continually happens, that Visitors and Strangers decline going to the Balls, in consequence of those Parties taking so great a number of persons away, who otherwise would attend the Balls.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS, CHELTENHAM.

MR. UGLOW has the honour to announce to the Nobility, Gentry, and Inhabitants of Cheltenham and its Vicinity, that in consequence of his shortly leaving the Town, he will give a FAREWELL

BENEFIT CONCERT,

UNDER DISTINGUISHED PATRONAGE, AT THE ABOVE ROOMS,

On TUESDAY EVENING next, Dec. 21st,

On which occasion he will have the honour of appearing, for the last time, before a Cheltenham Audience.—Mr. Uglow has much pleasure in announcing, that several of the undermentioned Artists and Performers have kindly consented to give their gratuitous assistance on this occasion.

Principal Vocal and Instrumental Performers :

MISS MARIA B. HAWES,

MR. SAPIO,

Leader of the Band, MR. D'EGVILLE, (of Worcester.)

MR. GUSTAVUS VON HOLST,

MR. EVANS,

MR. ROYAL,

Conductor and Solo Violin, MR. UGLOW.

MISS DAVIS,

MR. _____,

SENOR DE CASTRO,

and

PIO CIANCHETTINI.

Single Tickets 5s. each ; Reserved Seats 7s. each ; Gallery Tickets 2s. 6d. each. To be obtained only of Mr. Robinson, at the Assembly Rooms, and of Mr. Uglow, No. 1, Oriel Place ; where also may be had Books with the Words of the Performance.

Doors will be opened at Seven o'clock, and the Concert to commence at Eight o'clock precisely.

Reserved Seats may be secured on the morning of the Concert, on application at the Assembly Rooms.

The season for drinking the mineral waters was from spring until autumn, and George Rowe's *Illustrated Cheltenham Guide* of 1845 provides an insight into the musical and other entertainments enjoyed by residents and visitors alike during the 1830s and early 40s. 'Mr

Hampton, the aeronaut, made a daring and successful descent from his balloon in a parachute from a height of nearly two miles from the surface of the earth' to Montpellier Gardens in 1838, and during the summer months illuminations from fireworks and variegated lamps and jets of gas often concluded concerts and commemorative galas. In his perambulation of Montpellier, Rowe describes Oriel Place as a 'very genteel residence'.

When people moved house it was commonplace to sell their furniture and furnishings due to the difficulties of transporting such items, and so it was on Thursday 28 September 1843 that the 'Modern Household Furniture' of 1 Oriel Place was to be put up for auction at the premises unless it 'had been previously disposed of by private contract'.

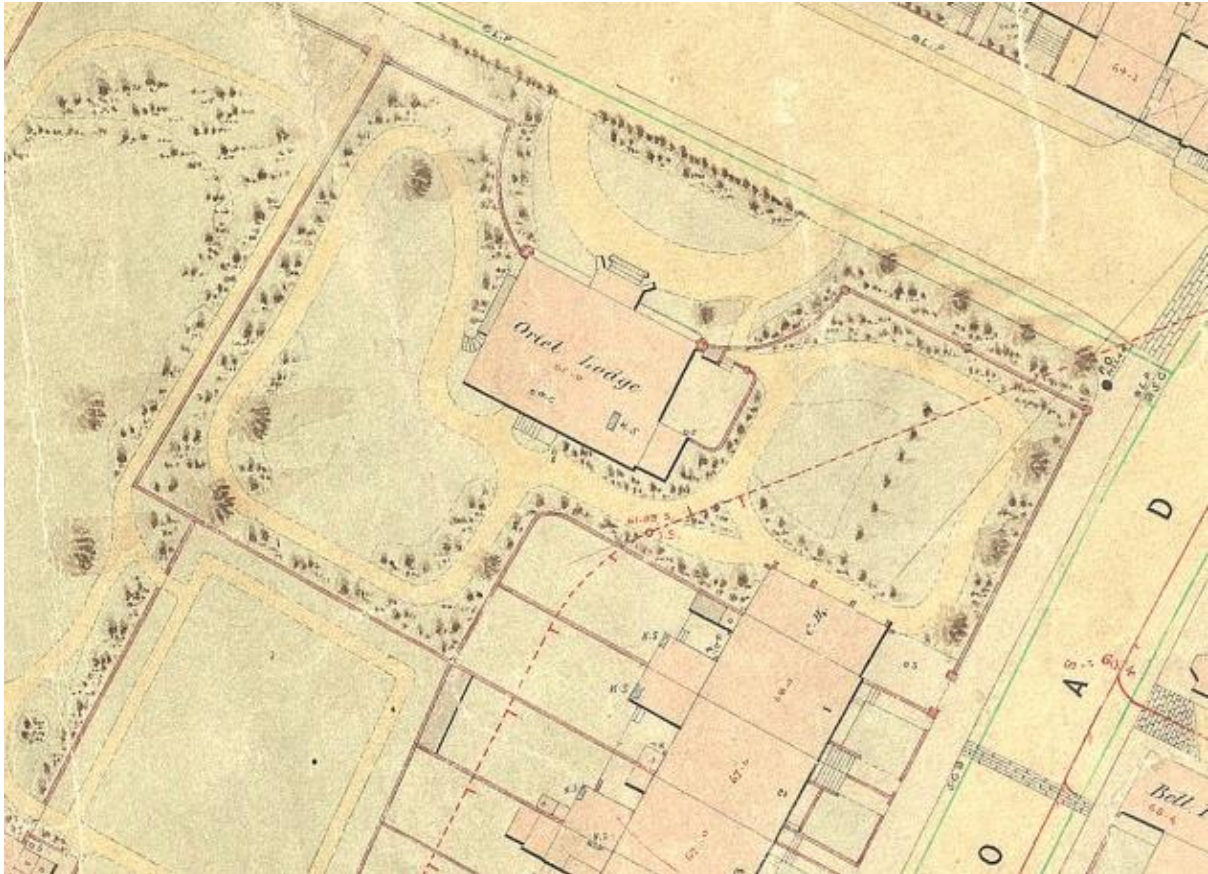
In 1851, 1 Oriel Place was occupied by two households, those of the widowed Martha Green and her son Thomas, and of George and Hannah Hawker and their young son William. While most of the residents of Oriel Place were listed as fundholders or annuitants, it is interesting to note that Martha and Thomas were a sempstress and grocer respectively, and George was a groom.

^{Place} Oriel Place No 1	Martha Green	Head	52	Sempstress	Clod: Sevidro	✓
	Thomas Green	Son	20	Grocer	" Cheltenham	
	Hawker George	Head	Mar 27	Groom	Clod: Becklaupford	
	" Hannah	Wife	" 27		" Blakeney	✓
	" William	Son	2		" Cheltenham	

1851 census

A map of 1855 shows a building in the grounds of neighbouring Oriel Lodge abutting 1 Oriel Place. It is marked 'CH' perhaps for Coach House,

and is depicted with what appears to be four pillars. Beside it is an entrance to Oriel Lodge from Bath Road (again with pillars). It is unlikely to have been a dwelling as it is not listed in any census.



1855 map showing a building abutting 1 Oriel Place

The 1861 census suggests that either 1 Oriel Place may have been run as a small preparatory school, or that Jane Westoby, the occupier of the property, was working at one. Robert Francis, a ten-year-old boarder from Torquay, and Kate Aston, a servant, completed the household that night.

1, Oriel Place	1	Jane Westoby	Head	Woman	50	Preparatory School	Truro last, Westinghouse
		Robert Francis	Boarder		10	Scholar	Torquay
		Kate Aston	Servant	Woman	19	Servant	Gloucester, Westinghouse

1861 census

In 1871 the majority of the heads of the Oriel Place households could still be considered well-to-do, living off their financial or property investments. John Phillipps, aged 82 of 1 Oriel Place, held railway shares and had an annuity. He was listed with his wife Jemima, their granddaughter Ada, and a servant, Caroline Power.

1, Oriel Place	1	John Phillipps	Head	82	84	Housemaid	Caroline Power
		Jemima P.	Wife	74		Frederick Lane, Annville	John Phillipps
		Ada P.	Granddaughter	24		John Phillipps	John Phillipps
		Caroline Power	Servant	41		John Phillipps	John Phillipps

1871 census

The *Cheltenham Examiner* of 9 October 1872 advertised that C & M Lane & Co of 4 Montpellier Walk were to auction 1 Oriel Place later that month. Details of the sale do not survive, nor any indication of the vendor or purchaser. More than likely the various owners of 1 Oriel Place held multiple properties as it has not been traced within the ownership votes listed in the electoral registers.

BY MESSRS LANE.
CHELTENHAM.
7, HATHERLEY PLACE.
MESSRS. LANE
WILL SELL BY AUCTION,
IN OCTOBER,
(Unless it is previously Disposed of by Private Contract),
THE above FIRST-CLASS RESIDENCE, contain-
ing—Three Reception Rooms, Seven Bed Rooms, Butler's
Pantry, Kitchen, &c., &c.
In perfect Repair, and equal to a New House.
Also,
WELLESLEY VILLA, PITTVILLE.
Also,
1, ORIEL PLACE.
For Particulars apply to C. & M. Lane & Co., Auctioneers
&c., 4, Montpellier Walk.

The land on which 1 Oriel Place had been built, Apple Tree Ground, was enfranchised for the sum of £21 on 5 October 1876 and therefore from that date it was no longer considered part and parcel of the manor of Cheltenham. The measurements of the plot were given as approximately 110 ft from east to west, and 23 ft from north to south. (2 Oriel Place was enfranchised in 1871, and of the same size.) The tenant of 1 Oriel Place at this time was Edward Hawks or Hawkes esquire, who had taken over the

tenancy from William Riley Martin on 9 December 1873. Edward was, in fact, about to leave the premises, for the sale of his household furniture was arranged less than a fortnight later, for noon on Tuesday 17 October. It is clear from the list that he had furnished his home in a classy, comfortable and modern manner.

ON VIEW MONDAY NEXT. SALE ON TUESDAY.

No. 1, ORIEL PLACE, BATH ROAD.

Sale of the whole of the excellent modern HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, Drawing Room Suite of Walnut Chairs, Easy Chairs and Couch, exquisite Inlaid Top Oval Ebony Loo Table, Ebony Cheffioneer with plate glass centre door, brilliant Plate Chimney Glass in burnished gilt frame, fine-toned full-compass Cottage Piano in walnutwood case, a few choice Oil Paintings and Engravings, Tapestry, Venetian and Kidderminster Carpets, very handsome Spanish Mahogany Pedestal Sideboard, Dining Table, Chairs, Couch, &c. The Hall Furniture in Mahogany, the Floor Cloth as planned, nearly equal to new. In the Bed Chambers—Iron Half-tester, French and Stump Bedsteads, Feather Beds, Horsehair Mattresses, Spring Mattress, Smees's Patent, &c, Japanned Maple Wardrobes, Chests of Drawers, Toilet and Wash Tables, Toilet Glasses and Ware, Household and Table Linen, China, Glass, &c. Bronze Telescope Chandelier and other Gas Fittings. The Appliances in the Domestic Offices, and a variety of useful Effects.

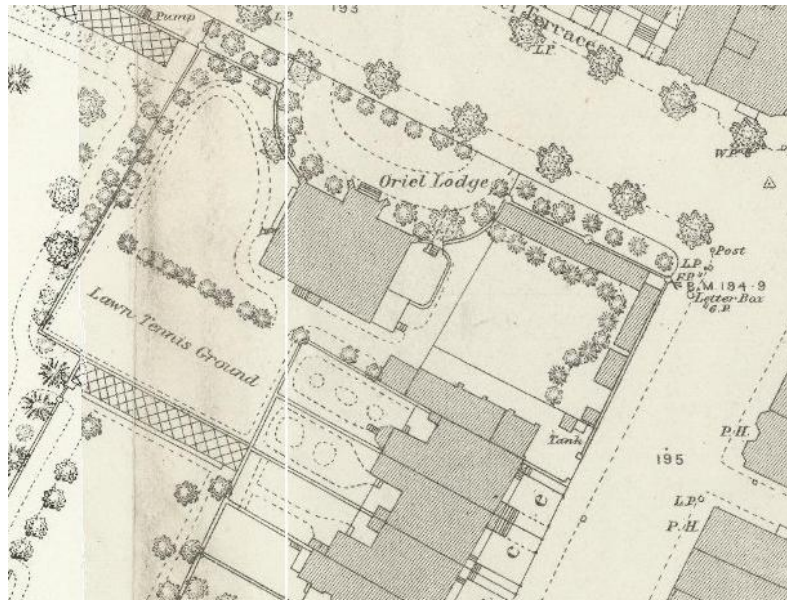
ALEXANDER SHIRER

Has been instructed by Edward Hawkes, Esq., who is leaving,
TO SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION
Upon the Premises,
No. 1, ORIEL PLACE, BATH ROAD,
On **TUESDAY**, the 17th day of **OCTOBER, 1874,**
Commencing at Twelve o'clock exactly.
On View the day previous from 11 to 4 o'clock.
Catalogues may be obtained in due course of the Auctioneer
at his Offices, 16, Regent Street, Cheltenham.

Cheltenham Examiner, 11 October 1876

'Sale of the whole of the excellent modern HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, Drawing Room Suite of Walnut Chairs, Easy Chairs and Couch, exquisite Inlaid Top Oval Ebony Loo Table, Ebony Cheffioneer with plate glass centre door, brilliant Plate Chimney Glass in burnished gilt frame, fine-toned full-compass Cottage Piano in walnutwood case, a few choice Oil Paintings and Engravings, Tapestry, Venetian and Kidderminster Carpets, very handsome Spanish Mahogany Pedestal Sideboard, Dining Table, Chairs, Couch, &c. The Hall Furniture in Mahogany, the Floor Cloth as planned, nearly equal to new. In the Bed Chambers—Iron Half-tester, French and Stump Bedsteads, Feather Beds, Horsehair Mattresses, Spring Mattress, Smees's Patent, &c, Japanned Maple Wardrobes, Chests of Drawers, Toilet and Wash Tables, Toilet Glasses and Ware, Household and Table Linen, China, Glass, &c. Bronze Telescope Chandelier and other Gas Fittings. The Appliances in the Domestic Offices, and a variety of useful Effects.'

The layout of the garden at 1 Oriel Place can be determined from an 1885 town plan which was surveyed in 1884. This also shows several changes made to the arrangement of the grounds and outbuildings at neighbouring Oriel Lodge since 1855.



1885 town plan (surveyed 1884)

In 1881, numbers 4 and 10 Oriel Place were lodging houses, and most properties in the terrace had at least one resident servant. The 58-year-old unmarried Julia Maria Masters at 1 Oriel Place employed both a cook and a parlour maid and lived off the interest from her investments.

1 Oriel Place, back road St. Benet's Street	1	(B)	Julia Maria Masters	Head	Unm	58	Interest of Money	London Bank
			Frances Forneby	serv?	W	74	Domestic Servant Cook	Worship, Street 6/12
			Mat. Louise Long	serv?	Unm	17	do Parlour Maid	do Chesham
						120		Southampton

1881 census

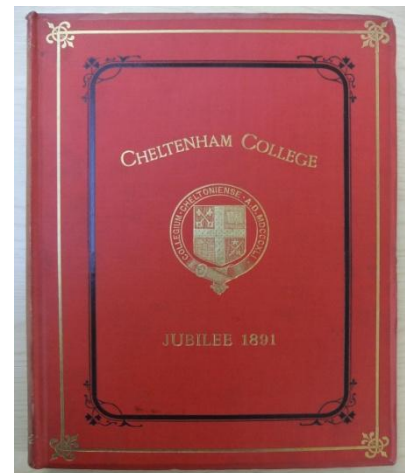
Shortly before the 1891 census, George and Mary Poole moved to 1 Oriel Place with their family. They do not appear to have had a resident servant. George, a master printer, had a successful business at 15 Bennington Street. He took a keen and practical interest in friendly

society work, and did much to popularise the movement locally, both as a Forester and an Oddfellow. A Liberal in politics, George was a regular attendee of Salem Baptist Chapel.

1 Oriel Place	George F Poole	Head	m	44	Printer & Publisher	X	Cheltenham
	Mary E	Wife	fm	44			do Cheltenham
	Clara J	Daughter	f	21	Shaper's Assistant	X	do Cheltenham
	Ernest G	Son	m	15	Schoolmaster		do Cheltenham

1891 census

George submitted plans in 1899 for additions and alterations to the rear of his premises in Bennington Street, but these were refused (the reason for the decision is not among the surviving records).



Book printed by George F. Poole to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of Cheltenham College in 1891

In both 1893 and 1895 the contents of 2 Oriel Place were auctioned as various residents sold up and moved on. The same auctioneers arranged both sales, and their records show changes to the rooms reflecting the different requirements and personal tastes of the inhabitants, although the layout remained roughly the same. In 1893 it was: dressing room, box room, chamber 1, chamber 2, drawing room, dining room, morning room, entrance hall, housekeeper's room, kitchen, larder, scullery; and in 1895: top floor chamber 1, chamber 2, chamber 3, front drawing room, back drawing room, entrance hall, housekeeper's room, kitchen. (Presumably the contents of the larder and scullery were not included in this auction.) George Poole bought 2 Oriel Place around this time and first appears as its owner in the 1898 electoral register.

Next door, at 1 Oriel Place, no doubt the Poole family made their own adaptations to the living arrangements, and by 1901 the house was again full of music as their daughter Alice taught her pupils at home, although ten years later she and her sister Clara were working from their own home in Charlton Kings as 'fancy drapers, milliners etc'.

Handwritten snippet from the 1901 census form for George Poole. It shows columns for Name, Address, and Occupation. The entries are: Name: George Poole; Address: Head of Household; Occupation: Printer & Publisher. There are additional handwritten notes and corrections.

1901 census

The 1911 census confirms that the number of rooms at 1 Oriel Place was ten, including the kitchen. The census forms were completed by the head of each household and this one is therefore in George Poole's own hand.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.														
Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.														Number of Schedules <u>11</u> (To be filled up by the Enumerator after relation.)
The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.														
NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE (Last Birthday and SEX)	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE				PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Person aged ten years and upwards				BIRTHPLACE of every person		NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country	INFIRMITY.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
George Frederick Poole	Head	64	Married	4-2	4-3	3	1	Printer & Publisher	24	England	England	Worcestershire	Stamford	
Mary Elizabeth Poole	Wife	64	Married	4-2	4-3	3	1			England	England	Worcestershire	Stamford	

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)					(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)				
I certify that — (1) All the entries in this Schedule are entered in the proper sex column. (2) I have entered in this column the names of all persons who have occupied this room with the usual number of persons. (3) I have marked the persons registered in Column 4, and have corrected such as appeared to be erroneous.					I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief. Signature: <u>George F. Poole</u> Postal Address: <u>1 Oriel Place, Bladderham</u> Date: <u>10</u>				
Total	Male	Female	Persons						
11	1	1	2	0					

George Frederick Poole died on 29 January 1913 leaving effects worth £3,717 17s. His obituary reveals his extensive interests in philanthropic work, and the esteem in which he was held.

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE F. POOLE.

FRIENDLY SOCIETY PIONEER.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Geo. F. Poole, of 1 Orriell-place, Bath-road, Cheltenham, who for many years past has carried on business as a printer in Bennington-street. Mr. Poole, who was but two or three years short of his three-score years and ten, was born in Cheltenham, where he resided the whole of his life. He served his apprenticeship to Mr. George Norman, father of Alderman George Norman, J.P., and some years later set up in business in Bennington-street on his own account, earning for himself during his long career as a master printer a high reputation for ability and conscientious dealing.

Mr. Poole was one of the pioneers of the friendly society movement in the district, and for many years held a very high position in the counsels of both the Foresters and Oddfellows. He had occupied every office in the Foresters, including that of treasurer; but he was an even more important figure in local Oddfellowship than in Forestry. Virtually the leader of the society in the district under the old régime, he helped to found many of the local lodges, and was one of those who were responsible for the starting of the Cheltenham Juvenile Oddfellows' Society, of which he was the first secretary. He also went through all the chairs of the district, honours in this respect culminating in the office of Provincial Grand Master of the District. He represented the Cheltenham District several times at the "Oddfellows' Parliament" (the "A.M.C."), and was one of the hardest workers in connection with the entertainment of the A.M.C. in the town in 1903, acting as the treasurer of the A.M.C. Fund. He served the district as treasurer of the Past Grands' Lodge of Oddfellows in the town, as well as of the Juvenile Society, and of his own lodge (the "Victoria"). The handsome chain of office worn by the P.G.M. of the Cheltenham District was presented by Mr. Poole some dozen or so years ago, and it bears an inscription recording the fact, which will be a memento of his work for the order for many years to come. Appointed a representative of the local friendly societies upon the Old-Age Pensions Committee when founded, he continued in that capacity up to the time of his death.

Mr. Poole's death comes as a painfully sudden shock to his many friends. He was at his office as recently as Saturday. On Sunday, while out for a walk with Mrs. Poole, she noticed that he did not appear well, but at first he told her not to worry. He became worse, and not being able to continue the walk, a conveyance was called to convey him home. His illness was a seizure, which rendered his condition hopeless from the first, and he died on Wednesday morning. Mr. Poole leaves a widow, one son, and two daughters. His son, Mr. Frank Poole, has long been associated with him in business. Politically Mr. Poole was a Liberal, and in religion a Nonconformist—he attended Salem Baptist Chapel.

Cheltenham Chronicle, 1 February 1913

The electoral registers show that George's widow, Mary Elizabeth Poole, continued to live at 1 Oriel Place and that her daughters, Alice and Clara, returned home; they were listed as newly qualified electors in 1929. In 1930 and thereafter, the property was described as 57 Bath Road, rather than 1 Oriel Place. Clara Hettie died on 1 February 1935 aged 65, and was buried three days later at St Mary's, Charlton Kings. Mary Elizabeth died on 7 September 1939 three weeks after a nasty fall. She was 92, and described as 'an extremely active person'.

Gloucestershire Echo, 9 September 1939

FATAL FALL
INQUEST ON CHELTENHAM
WOMAN

A verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned at the inquest at Cheltenham Police Station to-day, conducted by the Coroner for North Gloucestershire, Mr. J. D. Lane, on Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Poole, aged 92, of 57 Bath-road, Cheltenham, who died on Thursday from injuries received in a fall three weeks ago.

Evidence of identification was given by Mrs. Poole's son, Ernest George Frank Poole, of 211 Gloucester-road, Cheltenham.

Mrs. Mary Poole, also of that address, said that on August 16 she heard a thud in the room in which she had left her mother-in-law. On going into the room she found her mother-in-law lying flat on her back on the floor.

She said that when walking across the room her leg had given way.

A doctor was called in, and she was taken to a nursing home.

Dr. Florence Kathleen Costello, of 131 The Promenade, Cheltenham, said that the night of the accident was the first time she had seen Mrs. Poole. Before that she had been treated by her (Dr. Costello's partner).

In spite of a weak heart and heavy blood pressure, she was an extremely active person, but in view of her advanced age there was little that could be done for her.

Death was due to heart failure caused by shock following a fracture of the right femur.

Alice Maria Poole was the only resident of 57 Bath Road when a register of all persons was compiled shortly after the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939. (The register was used for the issuing of identity cards and ration books.) Alice's occupation, like that of so many other women, was recorded as 'unpaid house duties'. She had been born in Leckhampton on 26 June 1868 and ended her years at Douro House Nursing Home, Douro Road, Cheltenham, dying there on 21 May 1953. Her effects were valued for probate at £11,344 19s 9d.

During Alice's long life she witnessed many changes in terms of transport, the provision of utilities and the development of domestic appliances. Each brought huge social and economic consequences, and have continued to do so as witnessed by the following two photographs of Oriel Place taken around a century apart.



Almost two hundred years after 1 Oriel Place was built the elegant architecture of Montpellier continues to attract visitors and residents. Not all the buildings retain their original purpose. The Montpellier Baths, just a short distance along Bath Road from 1 Oriel Place, boasted nine baths in 1818. The premises underwent many enlargements and improvements during the nineteenth century, were converted to a Civic Playhouse in 1945 and remain a theatre today.

The magnificent Montpellier Rotunda is no longer a spa, and several of the larger properties have become offices. While the walks and rides are gone, Montpellier Gardens and Imperial Gardens are still places of recreation and entertainment.



Today, Oriel Place is Grade II listed and described as 'a particularly handsome neo-Classical terrace of modest houses, distinguished by its iron porches and arched bays'. The terrace of eleven houses (57-77 Bath Road) each consist of two storeys with a basement; some have attached railings. 'Stucco embellishment includes ground-floor platband surmounted to every third window bay by pilasters with incised Greek-key decoration and elliptical arch; frieze, cornice and blocking course. Flights of steps to paired entrances with six-panel, part-glazed doors. 6/6 sashes where original, those within arched recesses are wider and have margin-lights. Porches have heart-and-scroll motif to uprights. Area railings have mainly spearhead bars and dog-bars with urn finials to stanchions; some stick balusters to sides of steps.'



1 Oriel Place, now Crossways Guest House