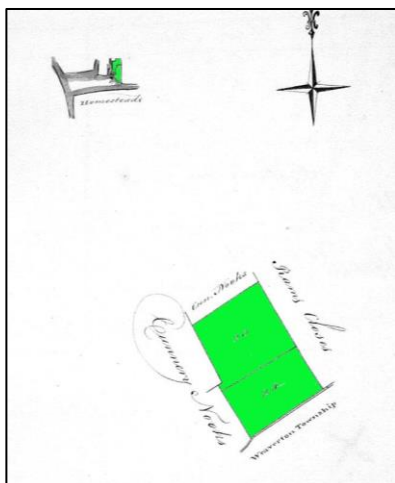


Occupation history of the Manor House site

1586

Two freehold cottages held by William Gervys, alias Brunce. Holding described in the 1586 survey as "2 cottages and a parcel of land where the guild hall stands + 5 strips of arable". The names Gervys and Brunce do not appear in any of the parish registers.

1776



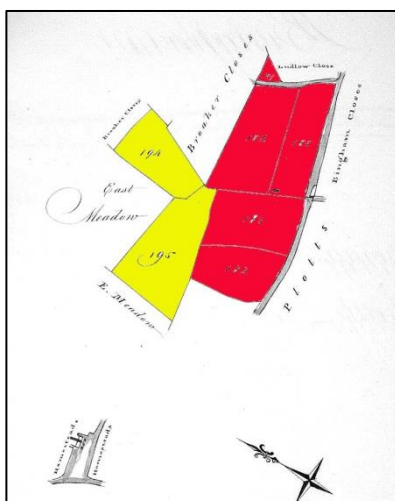
In 1776 the property was in the possession of John Bradshaw the third, and was part of the Chesterfield estate. The estate must have purchased the freehold sometime after 1586. John also held two closes (about 5 acres – shaded green on the plan) at Cunnery Nook, on the southern boundary of the parish. His grandfather, John (the first), died in 1721 and the list of rooms described in his inventory tally well with those of the Manor House. He had married twice, to Alice Roos who died in 1690 and then to Bridgett probably the following year, as their daughter Elizabeth was born in 1692.

In his will of 1719 John left his plumbing business with possession of a workshop with chamber to his then unmarried son John (the second - by his father's first wife Alice). These buildings were on the south east boundary and were demolished after 1841 and before 1883; the will also provided that when John married he was to have possession of the house with one room to be in the possession of his step-mother Bridgett.

Bridgett died in 1726 and left :

"To my son George Bradshaw possession of and right to a messuage house or tenement with all the appurtenances thereof standing in Bingham and commonly called Selby's House (this may be Manor Cottage).

I give to my aforesaid son George lease of the messuage house or tenement where I now dwell (the Manor House)"



She left John (2), her "son-in-law", five shillings. Quite what happened to his inherited share of the house stands is unclear. Might there have been some difficulty between step mother and step son?

John's half-brother, George lived where the Buttercross pub now is, a couple of doors away from the Manor House. He also leased seven closes from the Estate in 1776. He left five (coloured red on the plan) to his kinswoman (niece) Elizabeth, describing them as five closes along the turnpike (i.e. Grantham Road, and two (yellow) to his kinsman (nephew) John Bradshaw.

The newspaper reported George's death thus:

"On Sunday morning died at Bingham of a fit of Apoplexy in the 77th year of his age, Mr. George Bradshaw, a woollen draper and Grocer of great business in that place, by whose death, the Poor have lost a generous benefactor and it may with justice be said the lived truly beloved and died sincerely lamented by all who knew had the pleasure of his acquaintance. Wednesday night his remains were interred in the family burying place in Bingham church"

John (3) died in 1778, a year after George. His death was reported thus:

"Sunday last, died at Bingham of a lingering illness, which he bore with true Christian patience and resignation to the Divine Will in the 49th year of his age, John Bradshaw, gentleman, High Constable of the North Division of the Bingham Hundreds, in whose person were united all the qualities of the Gentleman and Christian. He was a man who possessed every principle of total virtue, he had a heart ready to sympathies with the distressed of every denomination and his liberal hand was always open to their relief. He was loyal to his King, was a social friend, a lively and entertaining companion. His death is lamented by all who knew him."

He owned property in Bingham and Calverton and left everything to his spinster sister Elizabeth. So despite the potentially tortuous inheritance route through a possibly feuding family, Elizabeth was the last Bradshaw standing and owned everything! Her will suggests a network of relationships yet to be researched. At some point the closes that had been leased from the Chesterfield estate must have been purchased, as Elizabeth left the freeholds to the children of Benjamin Rowland of Breadnall as well as cash. Her relationship with this family is unknown. She also left goods and a house in Moor lane to her servant William Widnall. She left the remainder of the lease of the Manor House and farm stock to her brother-in-law Robert Grant. In 1773 he had married Anne Bradshaw, Elizabeth's sister, who died the same year, possibly in child birth. He owned the freehold to what is now 2 Long Acre, so presumably had little use himself for the Manor House. He may have installed his brother Richard at the Manor House for whatever remained of the unexpired lease he had inherited.

Robert was a farmer but also held the bakehouse on the corner of Market Place and Newgate Street. Robert Grant died in 1795 without having remarried or had children.

1841

The 1841 tithe map shows the footprint of the Manor House as being of similar size to the present but with an extra building to the south, a square building to the east of the lobby and a now lost outbuilding along the middle of the garden boundary. The present outbuildings, which seem to be from the mid-19th century, are larger than the original. A northern portion was described in the tithe apportionment as a "Garden- garden ground" occupied by "Rbt & Eliz Grant", plot number 20. Elizabeth had been married to Robert's brother Richard who died in 1833. "Rbt" was their son Robert, born 1799. In the census of the

same year Robert and his mother are shown as living there. They could well have occupied Manor Cottage.

The apportionment shows main part of the Manor House, plots 18 and 19 were both occupied by John Barratt. The census reveals the occupiers as 85 year old John Barrott and 15 year old John, presumably his grandson. Another John Barrott (the middle one?) and family lived round the corner in Church Street.

Boot Alley ran alongside the Manor House northwards. There were four properties, including the Manor Cottage (plot 20). In the apportionment, Anne Boswell held all three. She lived in plot 21 with daughter, Catherine Wayte; both were laundresses. Catherine had a daughter Hannah aged 12. She was a lace runner later and as a minor, married Joseph Clarke, labourer, in 1844. Her father was described in the marriage register as a pauper. Anne had three lodgers, George Whitworth, a joiner and Henry Brotherton a stonemason and his wife.

The Harrison family lived at plot 22. George (age 40) was an agricultural labourer with a wife Sarah (35) and five children aged between 2 and 13. William Towers, aged 60 and a framework knitter, lived at plot 22 with son William, 20 also a framework knitter and daughter Elizabeth. They had lodgers Eliza Riddall aged 13, a lace runner, and William Roberts aged 4.

The house on the corner of Market Place and Church Street, later to be part of Doncaster's shop, was occupied by schoolmaster Edward Clifton and his wife.

1851

In 1851 the youngest Barratt still lived in Market Place and one presumes at the Manor House, accompanied by wife Elizabeth and son, yet another John. He continued there until the 1871 census when he had his wife Elizabeth and four children. By 1881 he had moved to Pond Street and his son, now a railway signalman, to Newgate Street.

Boot Alley was now named Grant's Yard and had six residences. The census enumerator made two visits to Grant's Yard, as shown by the gap in house numbers. In the census they are:

House 7: Hannah Mackley, a laundress with her granddaughter Sarah Stanmore.

House 28: Ann Boswell and Catherine Waite (47) were still here with Ann's granddaughters Hannah and Harriett Clark (aged 6 and 3). We saw earlier that John Clark had married Hannah Waite; these were clearly their children. George Whitwell still lodged with them

House 29: Mary (70) Harrison and son James (30).

House 30: John Clarke (34, builder) with wife and three children

House 31: George Harrison, a retired barber with wife Ann with their son John (36, a barber) and family along with George and Ann's unmarried daughter.

There are enough houses on the 1841 tithe map to allow for these five properties.

House 32: Robert Grant lived here alone as a landed proprietor aged 52. If the enumerator took a sequential clockwise path around Grant's Yard, this would be consistent with Grant being at the Manor Cottage. 66 year old widow Anne Ragsdale was his servant.

On the corner, Edward Clifton had retired and his daughter, Mary had come to look after him and be a confectioner, perhaps the beginning of the building's use as a shop.

1861

In 1861 Barratt (Barott) became Barrett!

The enumerator took a circuitous route starting with 18 Market Place (Chettle's), walking west and then north along Moor Lane to the Gas Works and managers house (Roland Horsepool), He counted Holme Farm and the Station master's house as "Moor Lane". He then went to Cromwell House, Chesterfield Street and on past the Blue Bell, turning east onto the Market Place. Oakes was still at number 19 and the Barretts at 24, the Manor House. In between, and from the evidence of his route in sequence, the households were:

House 16: Charles Sissons, 45 General Dealer, wife Ann, son Samuel (Licensed Hawker and servant Samuel Dove. This was probably the house shown on the tithe map alongside Oakes' house.

House 17: Catherine Clarke 9at 57 is almost certainly the Catherine Waite of 1851) and now a lodging house keeper. Her daughter and granddaughter lived here with two lodgers, one a millwright, the other a nail maker.

House 18: William and Hannah Wilson (farm labourer).

House 19: Hannah Clarke, a bricklayer's wife (he was not present) with nine children!

House 20: James (45, labourer) and Sarah Harrison.

House 21: John Harrison (45, barber and horse clipper), wife Elizabeth and five children.

House 22: Robert Grant, 62, landed proprietor.

House 23 Thomas Willoughby, 72, labourer and Elizabeth, 74.

House 24 John Barrett, 39, cottager, Elizabeth and six children. This was the Manor House.

House 25: Mary Clifton still occupied the corner shop as a confectioner.

1871

The 1871 census enumerator surveyed the south side of Market Place, starting at the junction with Market Street, progressed along the south side of Church Street as far as East Street and returned along the north side to finally survey the east, north and west sides of the Market Place.

Jane Doncaster's is shown as House 112 Market Place, implying the business and family moved into the corner shop to what we think in 1861 was the Clifton's shop. A slight complication is that Mary Clifton is shown next door as a schoolmistress!

However, normality is resumed with the cottager family of Barratts next door at the Manor House.

House 115 is probably the same as 22 in 1861, i.e. possibly the Manor Cottage. It housed William Hutchinson, 35, grocer and his wife and daughter along with cousin Eliza Beet (an annuitant) and a servant.

The next two houses, 118 and 119, are in "Market Square" and were occupied by the Harrisons (farm labourer) and the Clarkes (bricklayer) who were in houses 19 and 20 in 1861.

The next house, 120, is the Oakes at 19 Market Place. There is a gap in the 1883 map between 120 what was probably 119. There were fewer households in this area in 1871 so this makes sense.

1881

The sequence of house numbers in the 1881 census implies the enumerator progressed around the Market Place in a clockwise direction Ann Gamble and James Hardstaff occupied the first two houses (63, 64) which we know from previous research were no 1 MP and the (now ex) butchers shop next door. Following the sequence of numbers leads to house 79 – The Crown, being in exactly the correct place on the map with Langley the painter shown to be adjacent at number 19 MP.

This interpretation is supported by the fact that Newtons (shoemakers) is shown in the same location as it was on the tithe map. It is just as likely that house 101 was 3 doors from the Newtons, at 98. Julia Newton was widow of the shoemaker Isaac and they had lived at this house in 1841 so were very likely still there in 1881. House 101, seemingly on the corner, was a fishmonger and beer retailer (Hannah Goodwin). This would have been the lineal successor to John Pilgrim, publican on this site in 1841. Photographs from the late 19th century show the Plough and harrow pub here, more corroborative evidence. Whilst the route seems quite certain, the individual sequence of houses cannot be completely relied upon, but one might reasonably assume that since most of the properties were also the occupant's place of work, there would have been few missing at the time the enumerator turned up.

Jane Doncaster, known to have been on the corner of Market Place and Church Street and listed as house 85, which allows four houses between it and Langleys, which is about right, given that some of the houses in this area had been demolished by 1883.



The four occupants were:

House 81: William Upton, 31, Builder's carter, with Sarah and five children. This house was probably that originally shown on the tithe map adjacent to 19MP. The house(s) adjoining to the north had been demolished by 1883, so

House 82: Mary Newcomb and two sons.

House 83: John Harrison, 67, hairdresser and family.

House 84: George Bradwell, 55,

saddle and harness maker.

One of these would have lived in the "newer" house built facing the alleyway to the Market Place.

With house 85 being Jane Doncaster on the corner, House 84 could have been the Manor House. The outbuildings would conceivably have provided workshops for a saddle maker.

1891 and following

We know from family notes that Charles (son of Jana) and Amelia Doncaster lived at the Manor House, although the family record implies they moved in directly after marrying. They actually lived over the milliner's shop in Church Street in 1881, but the census shows them in market place in 1891.

The enumerator did East Street and Church Street, moving from side to side, and then Station Street and then some of Market Street before processing round the Market Place! Hannah Goodwin's beer house and fishmonger was the second house on the list, followed by others we know to have been on the south side (e.g White's grocers and Brown the ironmonger). Then the sequence goes haywire on the east and north side of Market Place. But William Doncaster and Amelia with daughter Edith (10) and some boarders are in house 131 which must be the Manor House. The Manor House (131) and the Crown (130) are sequential on the list and the Grays, known to have been next door to the Crown, are at number 134!

The first use of the house name "Manor House" occurs in the newspaper announcement of the birth of Arthur Gillott in May 1894. The Gillotts were at the large farmhouse, 8 Newgate Street in 1901 and Arthur's father had been a lodger in Shelford in 1871. As the Doncasters had a boarder in 1891 it seems likely that the Gillotts boarded here in the mid 1890s prior to taking on the tenancy of The Newgate Street Farm. It seems likely that the Doncasters had named the Manor House. William's son Charles Broxholme Doncaster took over the business and also wrote music, The sheet music of "The Bingham Boys" carried that address, as did a newspaper report of the marriage of Charles and Amelia's daughter.

On July 15 1920 William and Charles purchased the freehold to the property from the Earl of Carnarvon.

When Charles retired his nephew, John Broxholme, took over and lived at the Manor House until the business was sold in 1962 when he moved to Bath. We have yet to research occupation from 1962 until 1979 when Mrs Cheshire opened the antiques shop in the Manor House and cottage.