

GREEN STREET

FROM NO STREET TO
NEW STREET



in 400 years

Acknowledgements

The preparation of this brochure would not have been possible without the help of the following:

The chapter entitled 'Green Street: To-day and Yesterday' is taken from CAMBRIDGE REVISITED by Arthur B Gray, published by Patrick Stephens Limited in 1974. Patrick Stephens is now part of Haynes Publishing, Sparkford, Nr Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 7JJ.

Jon Harris, a long time resident of Green Street who has provided one of the maps and has added some stories was a great help in the preparation of the text.

The Cambridge Collection which was a source of much of the material in this brochure.

The Cambridge Evening News which gave permission to reproduce the photograph of the start of the 1999 scheme.

Thanks are also due to Beverley Gooch for word processing most of the text and for proof reading the many drafts, and to Lisa Cullis for help with the research and illustrations.

All photographs by Andy Thompson, Cambridge City Council, unless otherwise credited.

Printed by Cambridge City Council, City Services Design & Print.



are pleased to have been working in
partnership with



on the Green Street Environmental
Improvements Project

STONE LTD
10 ANDERSTON QUAY
GLASGOW
G3 8BQ

TEL: 0141 243 4800
FAX: 0141 243 4801

Bibliography

Erica Dimock, 'Narrow by-way once one of liveliest parts of Cambridge,' Cambridge News, 29 August 1963.

Sara Payne, 'Grisly Green Street,' Cambridge Weekly News, 23 April 1981.

Enid Porter, 'Green Street Cambridge,' Cambridge and Peterborough Life 1970.

J Willis Clark and Arthur Gray, 'Old Plans of Cambridge 1574-1798,' Bowes and Bowes 1921.

Ken Alger, Alan Brigham, Brian Hockley and Julie Wilkinson. Cambridge Iron Founders 1996 Cambridge Industrial Archaeology Society.

Venn, 'The Biographical History of Gonville and Caius College 1897.'

Arthur Gray, 'Cambridge Revisited,' Haynes Publishing, 1974 (originally published 1921).

Contents

Page	
5	Chapter 1 The Origins of the Street
7	Chapter 2 'Green Street: Today and Yesterday' A reproduction of the chapter from 'Cambridge Revisited'
17	Chapter 3 Green Street - 'An Exciting Place to Live'
41	Chapter 4 The 1999 Improvement Scheme
46	Chapter 5 What of the future?
47	Appendix 1 Extract from Spalding's Directories
53	Appendix 2 Listed Buildings
54	Bibliography

List of illustrations

1592 - Trinity Street (called High Street) and Sidney Street (un-named) well established.

Green Street well established and lined by buildings in 1688 and in 1798.

The Rev John Stittle of Green Street Meeting House, Cambridge.

The Old Union Debating House, from A Cambridge Scrapbook.

Oak panelled room, formerly part of the Angel Inn (in the yard of Messrs Macintosh & Sons).

Old houses in Green Street, probably part of Burden's Hostel; from a photograph by J Palmer Clarke.

An eighteenth century advertisement.

St Michael's Workhouse.

Green Street - reproduced from the 1886 Ordnance Survey Map.

Description of Green Street (early 20th century) from record card held by City Council's Engineers' Department.

Plan of street from record card held by City Council's Engineers' Department.

A lorry has to mount the pavement as it is directed successfully through the gap between another vehicle and Mr Band's shop (from Cambridge Evening News).

A reminder of the past - above Eaden Lilley's loading entrance.

The preserved cat and rat found in the wall at Eaden Lilley's in 1811 (photograph from Cambridge Weekly News April 1981).

Macintosh and Sons Ltd - shop which fronted onto Market Hill stretched back as far as Green Street (from Alger et al 1996).

Cast iron bollards and rails - part of the street's heritage.

The digging starts - Saturday 16 January 1999. Eaden Lilley - Chair of Green Street Traders' Association gives the workmen a helping hand (photo: Cambridge Evening News).

Trinity Street junction - before.

Trinity Street junction - after.

Sidney Street junction - before.

Sidney Street junction - after.

The sett layers Antonio Palliccea and Patrizio Aluvisi with trainee Gary King while being filmed by Anglia TV.

Street Masons Paul McLaren, John Brockett and Gary Gallagher.

Preface

1999 was an important year in the history of Green Street. After nearly 400 years Green Street was given a new lease of life as a result of an innovative partnership which undertook a comprehensive street improvement scheme.

The Green Street improvement scheme was carried out by the Green Street Traders' Association (including Trinity College and other property owners and businesses in the street) in partnership with Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and City Centre Management. It was designed and built by Stone3 1999.

This booklet has been prepared by Cambridge City Council's Environmental Design and Conservation Team to mark the completion of these works and form a permanent record and resource and to tell some of the Green Street stories.

Appendix 2

Extract from: 'The Statutory List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest'

Address	Grade of Listing	Description
Green Street, North Side, Nos 1 and 2	II	Part of No 46 Sidney Street premises. (Qv). Early/mid C19. Grey gault brick. Three storeys and attic. No 1 has no shop window, modern lattice on ground floor and on sash with glazing bars. No 2 has an original elliptically headed shop window. Two windows each above sashes with glazing bars. Two attic dormers, parapet, roof not visible. (RCHM 161). Nos 1 to 7 (consecutive) and No 46 Sidney Street form a group.
Green Street, North Side, Nos 3 to 7 (consecutive)	II	Early/mid C19. Grey gault brick. Three storeys and attic. Two windows each, sashes with glazing bars. Nos 3 and 5 have the original elliptically headed shop windows. Round headed doors with stone impostes and cast iron traceried fanlights. The other shop fronts are modern. Two attic dormers, parapet, roof not visible, but probably slate. (RCHM 161). Nos 1-7 (consecutive) and No 46 Sidney Street form a group.
Green Street, North Side, No 10	II	Circa 1700, refronted in the late C18 and extensively altered in the late C19. Red brick with vitrified headers. In two sections of three and four storeys, each section with two windows, sashes, some with glazing bars. Late C19 shopfront, modern shopfront. Arched doorway with fanlight. Parapet, tiled roof not visible. Fine interior fittings including bolection moulded panelling, fireplace surrounds and the original staircase. (RCHM 160).
Green Street, South Side, No 22, The Whim	II	Mid/late C19. Venetian Gothic style. Grey gault brick. Two storeys, three windows in pointed arch openings with drip moulds over sashes. Pointed arch door. Dentil eaves cornice, slate roof. Nos 22 to 27 (consecutive) and No 10 Trinity Street form a group.
Green Street, South Side, No 23	II	Early C19. Plastered front. Two storeys, 1 window. Modern shopfront, tripartite sash on first floor, attic dormer. Old tile roof. (RCHM 161). Nos 22 to 27 (consecutive) and No 10 Trinity Street form a group.
Green Street, South Side, No 24	II	Mid C19. Brick, rendered and painted. Three storeys with basement and attic. Three windows, modern plate glass on ground floor with central round headed doorway with fanlight. Tripartite sashes above smaller central one. Two bargeboarded dormers. Slate roof. Nos 22 to 27 (consecutive) and No 10 Trinity Street form a group.
Green Street, South Side, No 25	II	Early C19. Three storeys, gault brick, stone ban below parapet. Three windows, flat brick arches, glazing bars. Ground floor doorway on right. Six panelled door with rectangular ornamental fanlight. Simple but excellently proportioned front, and good example of period. (RCHM 161). Nos 22 to 27 (consecutive) and No 10 Trinity Street form a group.
Green Street, South Side, Nos 26 and 27	II	Early C19. Grey gault brick. Four storeys and basement, the top storey added at a later date. Two windows, one central on fourth floor, sashes with glazing bars. Round headed doorways. Six panelled doors with fanlights over. Central lead drainpipe. Parapet, roof not visible. (RCHM 161). Nos 22 to 27 (consecutive) and No 10 Trinity Street form a group.

- 25. Watts, Mrs
- 26. Caius College Lodging Houses
- 27. Speed, S I, caretaker
- 28. Southward, Mrs
Pattinson, Mrs
Brown, H E
- 29. Macintosh A and Sons, Ltd
Thurston's Billiard Saloon
Newman, Charles M, proprietor
- 30/31 Lilley

CHAPTER 1

Origins of the street

The old name of Green Street was High Warde Lane and that of the entrance passage to the street Burden Hostel Lane.

According to Willis Clark and Arthur Gray (1921) Green Street took its name from Oliver Green MD, of Caius College. The annalist of the college writing in the year 1614, states that the street had been then recently built on his estate.

Gray further explains that on the occasion of the visit of King James, Green undertook to repair the college sundials at the Gate of Honour and elsewhere and 'that on this gentleman's estate, the street from which his name is called Green Street, has been recently erected.' From this it is inferred that High Warde Lane first became lined with houses and so rose to the dignity of a street.

Venn (1897) in the Biographical History of Gonville and Caius College Vol 1 1349-1713 gave the following description of the man:

Grene, Oliver; son of William Grene, mediocris fortunae. Born at Trumpington, Cambs. Schools, Godmanchester under Mr Bradlan; and Elsworth. Age 19. Admitted to the scholars' table April 23 1582. Surety Ds Alexander Robberts, BA, fellow.

BA 1585-6; ML 1599; MD 1615. Scholar Mich 1585 to Mich 1589. A skilful mathematician; repaired the college sundials on the visit of James I to Cambridge (Annals). The site of 'Green Street' was his property. In his will



1592 - Trinity Street (called High Street) & Sidney Street (un-named at bottom) well established. An open space with trees marks the area soon to become Green Street.

(proved VC Court, Cambridge, Dec 16 1625) he mentions his wife and sons, Henry and Anthony; lands in Gamlingay and Waterbeach; 'tenements of the Blewbore' and 'Greene Street' in Cambridge; son Henry, executor.

The other version of the naming of the street has the authentic ring of local folklore. Sara Payne in the Cambridge Weekly News (23 April 1981) quotes a yarn by a local antiquarian bookseller, Eric Searle of 10 Green Street:

'I have heard,' he said 'that during the last plague in Cambridge this street was particularly afflicted. It was so bad that they boarded up both ends. When they took the boards down grass was found to be growing to the height of elephant grass in the street, which was known thereafter as Green Street!'

In 1921 Arthur B Gray wrote a book entitled 'Cambridge Revisited' reputedly as a way of getting over the death of his son in the First World War. As a trader with established premises in the street it is not surprising that he devoted a chapter in his book to the history of Green Street. The following chapter is reprinted with the permission of the publishers of the book.



Green Street well established & lined by buildings in 1688 (left) and in 1798 (below) Trinity College (left of maps) & Sidney Sussex College (on right).



- 30/31. Stoakley & Sons, bookbinders
- 32. Dall, William
- 33/34. Robinson's Motor Bicycle Garage
- 35.
- 36. Rowbottom, Mrs
Phillips, Robert
- 37. Morris, Mrs
Smith, Rupert Hamblin, MA, agent for Messrs Gabbitas,
Thring & Co's Scholastic Agency
- 38. Smith, Miss, lodging house keeper
- 39. Headquarters of first Eastern General Hospital, RAMC 'T'
- 40. Redley, William, male nurse
- 41. Cox, George, athletic outfitter
Aplin & Co, hairdressers and perfumers

1922 - 23

- 1. Allin, P H & Sons, electrical and sanitary engineers' showrooms
- 2. Gowar, Frank, ladies and gentleman's tailor
- 3. Haslop, Harry
- 4. North, Mrs
- 5. Stone, Mrs
- 6. Mynott, Wm, lodging house keeper
- 7. Knell, A E
- 8. Beedom, William, The Volunteer
- 9. Christmas & Son, bakers
- 10. Gray, John P & Son, Ltd bookbinders, by special appointment to the University Library
Gray, Arthur B
- 11. Day, Mrs, costumier, 'Cynthia' Micklethwaite, Miss, lodging house keeper
- 14. Barker, R, confectioner
- 15. Langford Bros, fancy goods importers
- 16. Matthew & Son, Ltd, Bakehouse
- 17. Green, Robert
The cafe luncheon and smoking rooms
Deighton Bell & Co, Ltd
- 22. The Whim tearooms
- 23. Tickner, E, boot and shoe repairer
- 24. Flack & Co tailors and robemakers
Reynolds, G F
Doo, Miss

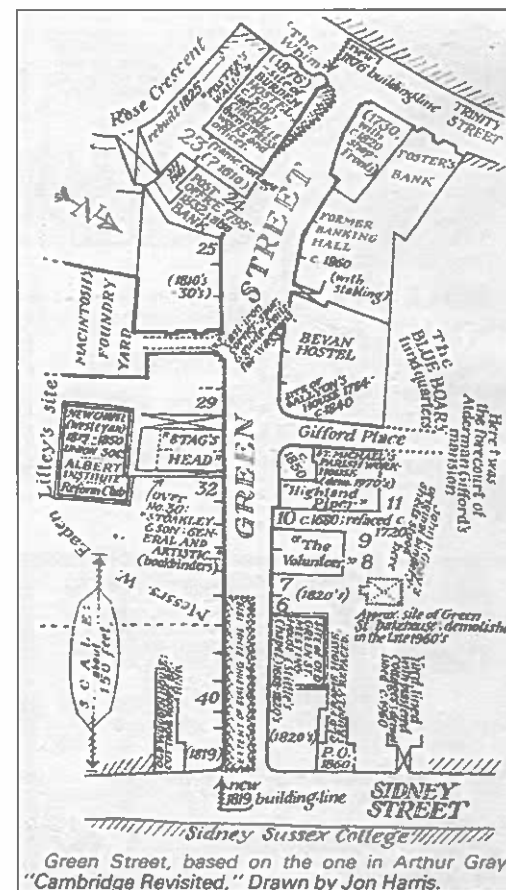
39. Ellis, David, college porter
40. Cherry, Francis, clerk
41. Moden, J Noel

1913

1. Law, Misses R & E, lodging house keepers
2. Langford, Albert L, lodging house keeper
3. Lambeth, Mrs L, lodging house keeper
4. Harrison, Edwin
5. Osbourn, Miss Harriet, lodging house keeper
6. Davey, Miss U, lodging house keeper
- Whybrow, Miss Emily
- 7.
8. Coppins, Mrs, The Volunteer
9. Christmas & Son, bread and biscuit makers
10. Gray, John P & Son, bookbinders, by special appointment to the University Library
11. Willers, B J, lodging house keeper
14. George, Albert A, lodging house keeper
15. Roper, Arthur, tailor and breeches maker
16. Matthew & Son, Ltd, bakehouse
17. Green, Robert
- Evans, Arthur Humble, MA, private tutor, Esquire Bedell
- The cafe luncheon and smoking rooms
- Hancock, Mrs, Emma, lodging house keeper
- Deighton Bell & Co, side entrance
22. Stanley, Guy W, solicitor to Cambridgeshire Permanent Benefit Building Society
- Pigg, Charles, MA, private tutor
23. Rossiter, James, picture frame maker
24. Thompson, W G, auctioneer, valuer and estate agent
- Doo, Miss, milliner
25. Tomlin, Miss Fanny, lodging house keeper
- 26.
27. Ledger, John H
- Ledger, Henry F
28. Flack & Co, tailors and robemakers
- Raynolds, G F, lodging house keeper
29. Sidney Cycle and Motor Depot
- Knaster & Cox, proprietors
- Thurston's University Billiard Saloon
- Newman, Charles M, proprietor

CHAPTER 2

Green Street: to-day and yesterday



An extract from 'Cambridge Revisited' by Arthur Gray.

At first sight, it must be confessed, there is little in the Green Street of to-day to inspire the antiquary or attract the traveller.

An air of comfortable and placid respectability reminiscent of better days distinguished until recently this narrow but convenient bye-way between Sidney Street and Trinity Street, but now even this has vanished, and nowhere else in Cambridge is there more visible evidence of the economic effects of war.

Its undergraduate population knows it no more, its busy colony of lodging-house keepers have long since fled, the curtainless windows of forsaken rooms stare empty-

eyed at the furtive passer-by, while two gaunt and tenantless houses tower conspicuously above the rest, their crumbling brickwork breaking away as though in utter weariness of standing sentinel so long and uncared for amidst the surrounding desolation.

Here, too, at night the enforced darkness of the town seems to assume a more impenetrable gloom, and the death-like stillness is but occasionally broken by the sound of hesitating steps upon the pavement.

At times, indeed, the old street assumes a grim but fitful gaiety, for the billeting officers find in its dismantled buildings ample accommodation for their men during their transient stay in town. Then sharp, staccato commands ring out to the sound of military tramping, baggage waggons obstruct the road, and the strains of 'Tipperary' echo through some peaceful student's forsaken abode.

But let us leave this melancholy spectacle for the Green Street of yesterday. Its memories, its close association with University and civic life yield many interesting facts and connections.

Green Street, in the days of its prosperity, was one of the liveliest parts of the town. Important buildings, both civil and religious, lay within its precincts and the busy yards of three popular inns opened upon its narrow way. Here also was situated St Michael's parish pump, which was stolen and carried away bodily in 1816, causing the annoyed churchwardens to offer no less a sum than £10 for the apprehension of the delinquents!

Until 1819 the only access into Sidney Street lay through Green Street Passage, a narrow footway 120 feet long, which gave our thoroughfare the shape of a bottle-neck.

From Bowtell's *History of the Town* we learn that the old name of Green Street was Highe Warde Lane, and that of the passage Burden Hostel Lane, from the fact that it led in earlier days to Burden Hostel, which occupied a site extending from Messrs Macintosh's yard to a frontage facing Trinity Lane.

The street takes its present name from Oliver Green, MD (1563-1623), of Caius College, who was a man of property and a native of Trumpington. Willis and Clark, in their *Architectural History of the University* (Vol I, page 183), quoting from the *Annals* of Dr Caius, state that in 1614, on the occasion of the visit of King James, Green voluntarily undertook to repair the College sundials at the Gate of Honour and elsewhere, and 'that on this gentleman's estate, the street, which from his name is called Green Street, had been recently erected.' From this we may infer that Highe Warde Lane first became lined by houses and so rose to the dignity of a street, in the early years of the seventeenth century.

The religious memories of Green Street are confined to the Non conformist movement, which owes so much to the influence of that remarkable Puritan, Francis Holcroft, Fellow of Clare and Vicar of Bassingbourne, known as the Apostle of Cambridgeshire, who suffered imprisonment for his opinions in Cambridge Castle and, dying in 1693, was buried near his

1895

1. Law, Mrs Helen, dressmaker and lodging house keeper
2. Challice, Tom Morgan, boot closer
3. Wallman, Edward, carpenter and lodging house keeper
4. Nichols, The Misses, lodging house keepers
5. Osborne, Mrs Harriet, lodging house keeper
6. Clarke, Charles William, assistant, Chemical Laboratory
7. Smith, George John, architect and surveyor
8. Coppin, Albert Charles, The Volunteer
9. Christmas, William, bread and biscuit maker
10. Gray, John & Son, bookbinders
- Gray, John Phillips
- Gray, Arthur Beales
11. Bond, Mrs, Caroline, lodging house keeper
14. Manning, Joseph, greengrocer
15. Fulcher, Samuel, clerk
16. Cowper, Mrs, Ann, lodging house keeper
17. Green, Robert, general dealer
- Evans, Arthur Humble, MA, private tutor
- Smith, W W
- Cambs Permanent Benefit Building Society Directors' Board Room
- Foster, J E, ME, solicitor
22. Bowers, Mrs Annie Marie, lodging house keeper
23. Delph, William, fruiterer
24. Doo, James, grocer, assistant overseer for the parishes of St Edward and St Mary the Great
25. Tomlin, Miss, Fanny, lodging house keeper
26. Parker, Mrs, Jane, lodging house keeper
27. McMaster, William, lodging house keeper
28. Flack, Charles, Robert, tailor and robemaker, Cambridge and Oxford
29. Knaster, Ignatius, hairdressing and toilet saloon
30. Stoakley & Son, bookbinders, Stoakley, Louis
31. Rose, Miss, Annie L, cork cutter's shop
32. Day, Mrs
33. Banham, Charles, boot and shoe maker
34. Moden & Sons' wine cellars
35. Teversham, Mrs, A, lodging house keeper
36. Jones, Mrs, Ann, lodging house keeper
37. Rowley, Miss, Elizabeth, lodging house keeper
38. Bull, Mrs, Clara E, lodging house keeper

1. Burgess, Mrs Tabitha Ann Jane, lodging house keeper
2. Challice, John Morgan, bootmaker
3. Mutimer, Esau, cab proprietor
4. Nichols, William W, lodging house keeper
5. Bidwell, Charles Packer
6. Kitteridge, John, upholsterer
7. Smith, Geo, John, architect and surveyor
8. Larkin, D, tailor, The Volunteer
9. Wilderspin, Geo, baker
10. Gray, John Phillips, bookbinder
11. Poole, Wm Henry, teacher of singing and lay clerk
14. Charles, John, compositor
15. Fulcher, Samuel, clerk
16. Cowper, Mrs Ann, lodging house keeper
Fromant, Isaac, bootmaker
17. Green, Robert, railway servant
22. Lofts, Arthur Chas, solicitor's clerk
23. Flack, Miss Mary, lodging house keeper
24. Challice, Miss Eliza Reynolds, lodging house keeper
25. Tomlin, Mrs Ann, lodging house keeper
26. Taylor, Mrs Ann, lodging house keeper
27. Macmaster, William, tea dealer
28. Hunt, Charles, lodging house keeper
29. Flack, Robt Chas, tailor and robemaker
Devonshire Assembly Rooms
Junior Liberal Club
Williams, William Henry, custodian
30. Hawes, John Bird, bookbinder
31. Rose, George, cork cutter
32. Osborne, William
33. Bell, Alexander, fly proprietor
34. Waters, William Henry, wine stores
35. Teversham, Thos, college servant
36. Swindells, F, clerk
37. Banham & Son, bootmakers
Banham, Charles
38. Bull, Mrs Clara Elizabeth, lodging house keeper
39. Ellis, David, college servant
40. Townsend, Mrs, Sarah, lodging house keeper
41. Moden, John Noel

colleague, Joseph Oddy, in a plot of land he had purchased as a Non conformist burial ground, now a garden adjoining the churchyard at Oakington, where his tomb may still be seen.

On the site of the houses numbered 5, 4, and 3 stood an old Independent Chapel, dating back to 1688, generally known as the Old Green Street Meeting House, but in later days often referred to with less respect as Stittle's Chapel, after the Rev John Stittle, who served his congregation here from his appointment in 1781 until his death.



*The Rev^d John Stittle
of Green Street Meeting-house, Cambridge*

John Stittle (miscalled 'Stettle' by Byron in 1811 in the *Hints from Horace*), was born at Madingley in 1727, and died in 1813. He was one of the many Cambridgeshire converts won to piety by that eccentric clergyman, John Berridge, the friend of Wesley. He was a hedger and a thrasher, could read well, but never could write. This had the advantage of compelling him to preach extempore; (and some people are said to wish, for the sake of the same advantage, that all preachers were blind). An anecdote, which Professor de Morgan has immortalised, represents him as saying, in contempt of academical learning, 'D'ye think Powle (ie St Paul) knew Greek?' But Professor Adam Sedgwick, the eminent geologist, declared this anecdote quite incredible, and utterly at variance with the strong mental powers which Stittle possessed. When Mr Simeon, who had befriended Stittle, preached a University sermon, in which he stated Calvinism more moderately than had been usual with him, some of those Dissenters who had occasionally attended his church became offended at his apparent change of views, and consequently transferred themselves altogether to Stittle's chapel. Simeon, nevertheless, did not resent this, and ultimately he very generously made Stittle a permanent quarterly allowance, which, he jocularly said, was 'for shepherding my stray sheep.' (The tradition of this saying was preserved by a person who had often been employed by Simeon to carry the money.) Stittle remained to the end a high Calvinist. He used to say, 'Arminians are like wood-pigeons. They say 'Do, do, do' all day long, but they are the laziest birds that fly.' He would have sympathised with the poet who wrote:

'Go search Paul's Epistles, you shallow Arminians,
You'll not find one text to support your opinions.'

He rejected all water baptism, either of infants or adults. He had a standing feud with the undergraduates. They used, as Byron suggests, to go to Green Street to ridicule the sermons, and would bring sparrows into the chapel and let them loose. One man, seeing himself watched, put his cap in front of his face, upon which Stittle grimly observed, 'in the Day of Judgment there'll be no caps to hide your face in.' In old age he used to be carried to the chapel in a Sedan chair. An undergraduate called out to the bearers as they were carrying Stittle over Magdalene Bridge, from Castle End, where he lived, 'drop him over the bridge into hell.' Stittle replied, they can't, for my Master keeps the keys of hell.' One day he was met in Petty Cury by three undergraduates, who respectively accosted him, the one as 'Father Abraham,' the next as 'Father Isaac,' and the third as 'Father Jacob.' He replied, 'I am none of the three, I am merely Saul, son of Kish, sent to seek my father's asses. And lo! *I have found them.*' He preached so long a series of sermons on David, that one of his flock complained, 'you have picked all the flesh off David's bones.' He replied, 'yes, and I shall now crack the bones and see what marrow is in them.' In one sermon he compared eternity to a clock so gigantic that it said 'tic' in one century and 'tac' in the next. Then suddenly turning to some undergraduates in the chapel he said: 'go home and calculate the length of that clock's pendulum.' On one occasion when insulted by undergraduates he invited one of them to come to his house and share the 'herby pie' supper of his family; after which he induced him to stay on for family worship; this resulted in the youth being led to think seriously of religion, and in his ultimately becoming a valuable clergyman. Stittle was four times married, and survived his fourth wife. He said that if he had known that he should survive her so many years he would have married a fifth one. (But he had not the foresight of the man who engraved on the wedding ring of the fourth wife, 'if I survive I'll make them five.')

In Dean Alford's *Plea for the Queen's English* there is given a powerful passage from one of Stittle's sermons. He died in 1813, aged 85.

It was once the custom in certain Non conformist places of worship to erect a special pew to contain the Communion table, and it was beneath such a table pew, as it was called, that this zealous minister was buried amidst the scene of his former labours. His remains were subsequently removed to Eden Street Chapel, where in the lobby a tablet records his thirty years of faithful ministry in Green Street. His body, it is said, was found in perfect preservation, but in a few minutes it fell to dust, leaving only the skeleton to be re-interred.

Appendix 1

Extract from 'Spalding's Directory of Cambridge - Green Street' showing occupiers and businesses in Green Street

1874

23. Flack, Miss M, lodging house keeper
24. Challice, Prior, lodging house keeper
25. Tomlin, Mrs A, lodging house keeper
26. Taylor, Henry, lodging house keeper
27. Challice, Prior Eaton, manciple
28. Foster & Son, solicitors
Lawrence, W H
29. Ryder, Joseph, tailor and robemaker
Macmasters, William, tea dealer
The Reform Club
Coram, George, custodian
30. Hawes, J B, bookbinder
31. Rose, George, cork manufacturer
32. Wallis, Charles, college servant
33. Thomas, Frederick
35. Teversham, Thomas, college servant
36. Scott, Thomas, corn merchant
37. Banham, C & J, bootmakers
38. Warrington, James Pettit
39. Ellis, David, college servant
40. Dall, compositor
41. Moden, John Noel
2. Challice, F M, shoemaker
3. Mutimer, Esau, whitesmith
4. Nichols, William, lodging house keeper
5. Miller, W C, college servant
6. Kittridge, John, upholsterer
7. Smith, G J, land surveyor
8. Burton, Edward, The Volunteer
9. Wilderspin, George, baker
10. Gray, John Phillips, bookbinder
11. Poole, W H, teacher of singing

CHAPTER 5

What of the future?

The future of Green Street seems to be in safe hands. The Green Street Traders' Association have plans to build upon the recent improvement scheme and undertake further works to make the street an even more attractive and distinctive destination for shoppers.

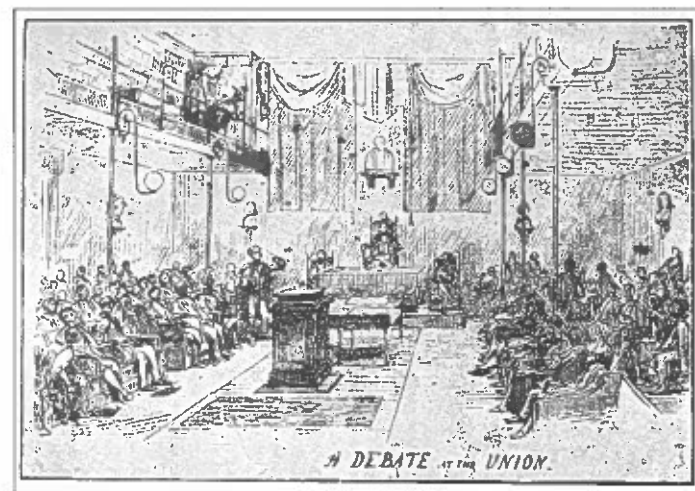
As part of the overall package of improvement works the Green Street Project Board, with help from Commissions East and Cambridge Cultural Planning, have commissioned an artist - Tom Grimsey - to prepare ideas for entrance features at both ends of Green Street. Tom will be discussing ideas with traders in the street and if everything works out then the street entrances will be given a new look sometime in 2000.

As a vibrant shopping street there is a gradual process of refurbishment of shops and a change of occupiers. During the course of the improvement works it was confirmed that the Laura Ashley shop would undergo a major refurbishment late in 1999 and even more dramatically it was announced that the Eaden Lilley department store was to close and be replaced by Borders bookstore.

We may take leave of this extraordinary character with the following extract from one of his many homely sermons - quoted often by my grandmother - that seems applicable in these present days of enforced economy: 'one egg makes a good pudding, two an excellent one, three is an extravagance, but four eggs in a pudding is an abomination before the Lord!'

The building now numbered 30 and 31 was in those days the Stag's Head Inn, and under its once busy covered way - now the approach to Thurston's Billiard Rooms - passed our Wesleyan forebears to service at yet another place of worship in its rear; from the following notice in the *Cambridge Chronicle* of 16 April, 1819, we learn the date of the present building:

The New Chapel ⁽¹⁾
In Green Street, Cambridge,
Will be opened on Tuesday next,
the 29th inst, when Three Sermons
will be preached by the Rev John
Hyatt, of London, and others. The
Service in the morning will commence
at half-past Ten o'clock,
after which further notice will be given.



The Old Union Debating House, from A Cambridge Scrapbook.

Footnote : ¹ The new chapel is still standing as part of the Eaden Lilley department store.

In 1850 the congregation migrated to their newly-built chapel in Hobson Street, upon the site of which now stands the present County Hall.

The empty chapel was taken over in the same year (1850) by the University Union Society, and remained in their occupation till 1866; a view of their 'dingy old room in Green Street' - as the late Professor Fawcett called it on one occasion - may be seen in *A Cambridge Scrap-Book*, published by Messrs Macmillan & Co in 1859, in a sketch entitled 'A Debate at the Union.'

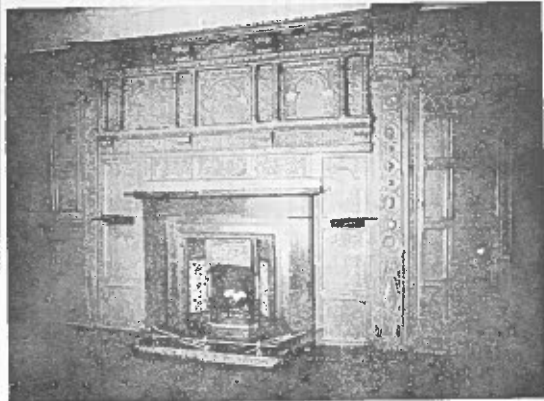
When the Union Society moved elsewhere the unexpired lease of the property was taken over by Ernest Boys, a Rustat Scholar of Jesus College who, with other earnest believers in muscular Christianity, had formed in the previous year (1 May 1865) the Albert Institute.

This was a social club having for its objects the promotion of religious instruction and healthy recreation among the young men of the town, providing for them a library, reading-room, evening classes and lectures and, incidentally, forming a bureau for obtaining employment.

Mr Gerard Cobb, the composer of 'Mandalay,' took charge for a time of the musical side of the Club, whilst the Rev Charles Kingsley, Dr Westcott, afterwards Bishop of Durham, and Dr H R Luard, amongst others, gave lectures to the members.

But, excellent though it was, the Club did not long survive the departure from Cambridge of its enthusiastic president, and soon afterwards we find the premises in the occupation of the Reform Club.

This was a political Society holding radical views considered extreme in their day, and the fact that their headquarters had a northern aspect gave the local Tory paper an excuse for alluding to its members as 'our friends on the *shady* side of Green Street.'



THE 'DINGY OLD ROOM' FORMERLY PART OF THE ALBERT INN.
(In the road of Messrs. Macmillan & Co.)

Page 100

Stone3 - Designer/Contractor

Norrie Innes	Managing Director
Mario Jaconelli	Contracts Manager
Mike Kelly	Senior Quantity Surveyor
David McAllister	Architect
Chris McIntee	Design Engineer
Colin Currie	Project Engineer
Alexander Miller	Foreman
Simon Hanlon	Ganger
David Nelson	Labourer
Billy Buthlay	Labourer
Craig Wainwright	Labourer
Paul McLaren	Street Mason
John Brockett	Street Mason
Gary Gallagher	Street Mason
Antonio Palliccea	Sett Layer
Patrizio Aluvisi	Sett Layer
Bassista Tunco Angelo	Sett Layer
Salvatore Pellicia	Sett Layer
Gary King	Trainee
Graham Arkwright	Plant Operator



Street Masons
Paul McLaren,
John Brockett
and
Gary Gallagher.

Thanks are also due to:

Sue Hewitt and John Barnes – Pedestrian Zone Management

Ian Greasley – City Council Engineers' Department

Nichola Cowell – City Council Employment Foundation

Nick Bolton, Jim Varney and Andy White – City Centre Management



The works required a large number of people to work together to make it happen. Apart from the Green Street Traders who began the project and were tolerant and cooperative through the construction work, without the efforts of the following people the improvements would never have happened.

The sett layers Antonio Palliccea and Patrizio Aluvizi with trainee Gary King while being filmed by Anglia TV.

The people involved

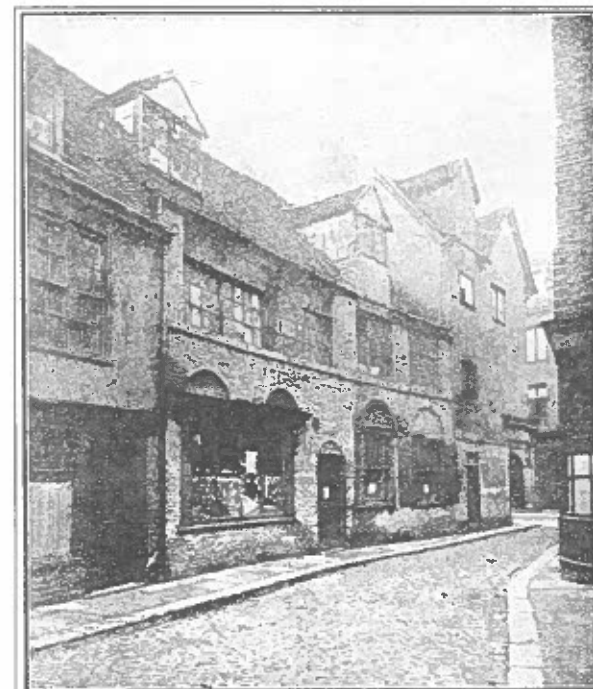
Green Street Project Board

Lydia Bowman	City Centre Manager
Andy Thompson	Cambridge City Council
Richard Preston	Cambridgeshire County Council
Charles Comins	Bidwells
Eaden Lilley	Eaden Lilley
Nick Lane	Sundaes
Mary Wells	The Stencil Store
Colin Nichol	Open Air
Guy Morton	Open Air

Messrs Macintosh's yard was, in the old coaching days, the busy stable-yard approach to the Angel Inn, whose imposing frontage faced the Market Hill, next door to the once famous Rose and Crown, commemorated in Rose Crescent, where from its balcony - still to be seen over Messrs Reed's shop - fervid orations were poured forth at election times.

In the early part of the 19th century the Post Office was situated at 24, Green Street, the Postmaster being Mr James Brown, father of Mr Charles Edward Brown sometime connected with the *Cambridge Chronicle*, and Mayor of the Borough in 1846-7 and 1868-9. The position of the Post Office is shown on Baker's map of Cambridge published in 1830.

Here, at No 24, the business of the Provident Bank was also transacted for many years by Mr Brown; the Savings Bank, as it was latterly called, subsequently out-grew its office accommodation, and more suitable buildings were erected in Sidney Street, which are now known as Bank Chambers.



OLD HOUSES IN GREEN STREET, probably part of Burden's Hostel, from a photograph by J. Palmer Clarke.

Note: Sett carriageway and granite kerbs

The quaint old house numbered 23 is a typical specimen of many of the old houses once seen in the street; adjoining, and extending into Trinity Street, stood the picturesque old printing offices of the *Cambridge Chronicle*. Upon removal, in 1836, to their present quarters on the Market Hill, Messrs Metcalfe and Palmer took over the premises, and here, in the autumn of 1868, the *Cambridge Express* first saw the light. With the demolition of the old property in 1876, the opportunity was taken to add about five feet to the narrow entrance into Trinity Street.

WILLIAM GALLYON,
Gun Maker,
GREEN-STREET,
CAMBRIDGE,
 (Successor to the late Mr. HENSHAW)
Makes and Repairs
GUNS AND PISTOLS.

POWDER FLASKS, SHOT BELTS,
GAME NETS,
Dartford and Battle Powder,
PATENT SHOT, GUN FLINTS,
And every other Article in the
SHOOTING TRADE,
In the newest Fashion, and on the lowest
Terms.

F. HUDSON, PRINTER, CAMBRIDGE.
AN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY
ADVERTISEMENT.

Gifford Place takes its name from the residence of Alderman James Gifford (died 1774), whose old Georgian building of red brick, standing in retiring dignity well back from its lofty entrance gates has been demolished, and its site absorbed by recent extensions of the business premises of a later-day Alderman of the Borough.

Lazarus-like at the entrance-gate was the Parish Poorhouse, a building which still exists, in outward appearance, much as it did in those sad bygone days, of which it stands a pathetic record.

At the left corner of Gifford Place was established in 1784 the gun-making firm of William Gallyon. On the site of the old premises the present house (No 14) was built by the family about 1832, not long before the business was transferred to its present address in Bridge Street.

Towards the end of the 18th century flourished somewhere in this street the book-binding establishment of John Bowtell, nephew of his more distinguished namesake, the bookbinder, antiquary, and benefactor of Addenbrooke's Hospital and other local charities.

Until the middle of the last century, on the site of the house at the right-hand entrance to Gifford Place, stood two old weather-beaten tenements numbered respectively 12 and 11, the latter a beer-house called the Highland Piper, approached by brick steps leading down to its entrance door.

The year 1849 may be still remembered locally in connexion with the fire at St Michael's. It was about half-past ten on the morning of Sunday, 11 November, that the good folk of Green Street and its immediate neighbourhood first heard that their Parish Church was on fire.

The street furniture was carefully chosen to complement the very traditional paving scheme whilst meeting modern needs. The bollards are of a unique Cambridge design modified following discussions with groups representing the visually impaired and the cycle racks are of the design preferred by cyclists. All the street furniture has been supplied in a dark green colour to make the street distinctive.

Keeping people informed

To ensure people knew what was happening as the scheme developed and as the works were carried out the Green Street Project Board met regularly. Once the contractor started work a weekly liaison meeting with traders, City Centre Management, Pedestrian Zone Management, and the City Council was held to keep people up to date with progress and to anticipate and resolve any problems. During the course of the works some 10



Sidney Street junction - before.



Sidney Street junction - after.

editions of a Newsletter were circulated to over 250 businesses and residents advising them of progress and advising of planned alterations to the access arrangements in the street.

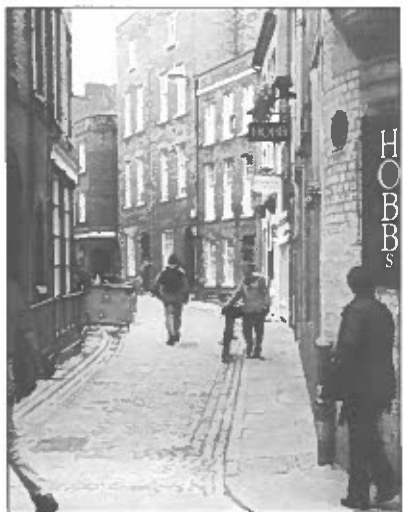
The works were completed on time and within budget and the street formally opened on Saturday 29 May 1999.

Stone3 from Glasgow were appointed and works finally began on site on 16 January 1999, a time agreed with traders in the street as being the best for minimising disruption both to trading and the many residents living in the street.

The works

The scheme involved the complete resurfacing of Green Street from wall to wall and end to end. During excavations the contractor came across large areas still surfaced in wooden blocks set in pitch and bedded onto concrete.

The footway on the southern side of the street from Sidney Street to Macintosh's yard was widened to give more space to pedestrians and to allow cycle parking to be positioned off the carriageway. Yorkstone flags have been used throughout the street to give a 'high quality' appearance to the street.



Trinity Street junction - after.



Trinity Street junction - before.

The existing granite kerbs were lifted and reused and where additional lengths were required these were reclaimed from other sites within the city.

The carriageway has been reduced in width for much of its length to 3.0 metres and has been surfaced using granite setts reclaimed from the Cattle Market on Cherry Hinton Road. To ensure the setts were laid to the highest standard a team of sett layers from Italy was used by the contractor.

Those were the days of manual fire-engines, and street hydrants were unknown. The problem of supplying water to the five engines that were quickly on the scene was solved by forming a double line of willing helpers to Trinity kitchen; on one side the empty buckets were passed down to the college pump, on the other they were whirled at the rate of six miles an hour from the hands of one to the other when replenished.

Soon the supply of water from the kitchens began to fail, the lines of water carriers were then extended through the New Court down to the river and two hours passed before the fire was got under. The outbreak appears to have originated in the church flues and thence to have spread to the roof of the south aisle.

The *Illustrated London News* of 17 November 1849, shows the church in full blaze, and to judge by the vivid illustration the efforts to subdue the fire appear to be confined entirely to members of the University, who in cap and gown are shown working the engines, whilst others, also in correct academical attire, are seen on the roof with lengths of hose, endeavouring to quench the flames.



Numbers 10, 9, and 8 are now the only early eighteenth century houses left on the north side of Green Street, No 8, now The Volunteer, being notable as the former home of a worthy barber named Crowson, once renowned far and wide for his excellent Bear's-grease, who, as an indisputable testimony to the genuineness of the said article, for long imprisoned in his cellar a bear. On fine days the poor brute would seek 'a place in the sun' by climbing up on to the roomy ledge in its ample area, to the great delight and wonderment of the juvenile inhabitants of the neighbourhood.

An old friend and native of Green Street who recollects the bear, tells me it was also shown at times in a back room behind an iron grating. The unfortunate animal having become more dangerous than attractive, was eventually shot, when portions of it were cut up into hams and steaks and distributed among various customers.

From the same source I learn that two inhabitants who flourished at about the same period as the bear were dwarfs, neither of them standing over four feet high, and both notable characters. One of these little men was an undertaker, living at No 34, who much accentuated his quaint appearance by wearing a coat of blue with brass buttons, surmounted by a top hat. The other, who lived in a house in Messrs Macintosh's yard, divided his attention between the law and the turf. The puny form and enormous white hat of this diminutive attorney rendered him a conspicuous object on Newmarket Heath, whilst his neighbours in Green Street looked upon him as a veritable prototype of Quilp.

The tragic death in the Soudan in 1882 of Edward Henry Palmer, Lord Almoner's Professor of Arabic in the University, has already been referred to, but it is probably known to few that Palmer was born in Green Street (1840). An excellent portrait of this distinguished orientalist, in eastern costume, hangs in the dining hall of St John's College.

Another native of Green Street was the late Mr Joseph Prior, who was tutor to the Duke of Clarence during his residence at Trinity College as an undergraduate.

Before leaving the old street, two other links with the past remain to be noticed. The eighteenth century bakehouse at No 9 still produces its daily batch of bread, and, still is heard the melancholy tap-tap of the bookbinder's hammer, reminding us of a craft for which Cambridge has ever been famous, and awakening, at the same time, echoes and memories of bygone days of prosperity and peace.

CHAPTER 4

The 1999 improvement scheme

Following an approach by a number of businesses in Green Street a 'street design workshop' was held on 23 October 1997 to look in detail at the kind of improvements that would be acceptable. This workshop, which was held in Eaden Lilley's restaurant, was attended by most businesses and representatives of a number of the property owners.

The improvements on which there was general agreement were:

- Resurface street in high quality natural stone with carriageway and footway at the same level
- New signage directing people into the street. Features at the street entrances
- Improved lighting
- Relocate and break up cycle parking
- Introduce more greenery



The meeting also agreed to set up the Green Street Traders' Association and nominated a small working group to work on the development of more detailed proposals and seek funding for the scheme.

The digging starts - Saturday 16 January 1999. Eaden Lilley - Chair of Green Street Traders' Association gives the workmen a helping hand. (Photo: Cambridge Evening News)

After a number of meetings of what became the Green Street Project Board a proposal was formally agreed by the City Council's Environment Committee on 12 January 1998. The City Council funding was conditional upon the contractor organising a training scheme for unemployed young people in sett paving and other construction skills. This approval then allowed detailed design work to proceed and for a contractor to be appointed to design and construct the works.

Changes took place at Market Hill in 1927. A deal was done with Eaden Lilley whereby the latter purchased a portion of the yard and iron warehouse at 28 and 29 Green Street for £500 in exchange for 14A Market Hill. This gave Macintosh and Sons Ltd a longer frontage on Market Hill.

All that remains as a reminder of the past are the metal tracks and cast iron bollards set into the road at the rear entrance in Green Street to protect the surrounding buildings from the wheels of carts as they came in and out of the premises. These have been retained in the recent improvement scheme as a reminder of Green Street's colourful past.



Cast iron bollards & rails - part of the street's heritage.

CHAPTER 3

Green Street - 'an exciting place to live'

Over the past 30 years a number of articles have been written about Green Street, (Erica Dimock 1963, Enid Porter 1970, Sara Payne 1981) and some of the characters that have lived or worked in the street. This chapter retells some of these anecdotes and includes some new ones. It is by no means a complete history and is merely intended to evoke a little of the character and to show how, in many respects, it has changed little over time.



Green Street – reproduced from the 1886 Ordnance Survey Map.

Over the centuries Green Street has played a full and important part in the life of the city and the colleges. Although it was largely rebuilt in the mid nineteenth century, some older buildings remain, notably No 10, the attractive bookbinding shop of J P Gray and Son (now Brian Jordan specialist booksellers of musical scores and musical books) remains as it was when it was erected in c1700, although the shop front is a prime example of mid Victorian work.

Architectural character

Jon Harris a building historian who still lives in Green Street offers this brief summary of the character of the street.

"The street is present architectural character was set by the square brick Deighton Bell building of circa 1730 and by the gradual erosion and replacement of timber buildings: the Highland Piper is supposed to have been boarded and pitched over its timber frame - like an old Essex coastal house.

The standard Green Street house is 3 storeys high, with attics, over a basement, 2 windows wide, flat fronted and of darkened gault brick. Most have, or had, a shopfront and a private side door. Dates 1795-1855. 24 and 25 are 3 windows wide. No 11 built as house, ie no shopfront. Old shopfronts: Deighton Bell/Heffers c1820s; No 10, Brian Jordan, 1860; Wacky Hair, No 23, there by 1870s; No 24 not much later (rebuilt 1855).

Rounded corners at cross streets – Hero, Pachamama and at all 4 end of street properties – to get carts round.

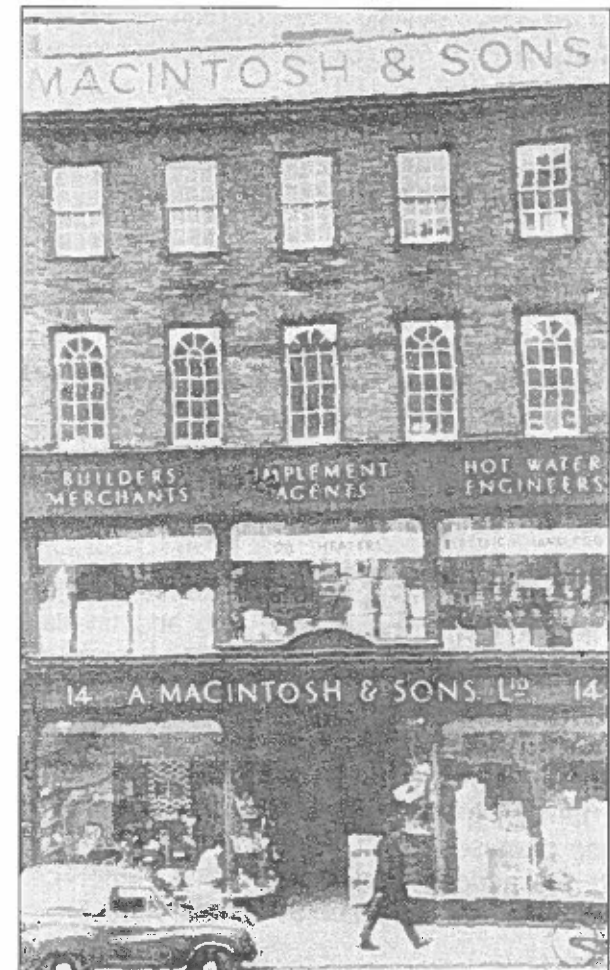
Exceptions to this general style are the older buildings representing the 'productive' street, No 23 (frame cottage); No 10, also 8/9 (rebuilt in Art Deco era) in soft red brick.

Later changes included the increased height of 26-7; 18-20 rebuilt in Italian style c1850 as bank premises; 11-12, 1850s; the Whim, 1875; Gas Board/Jessops, 1935-40; 14-17, Bevan Hostel, 1947-51.

Building features include fanlights, occasional balconies, some shopfronts. Interiors: staircases. No 25 has interiors even better than No 10. Remains of sequence of long and short arches (shop and house door) Nos 4 to 7 ie Stittle's chapel site of 1826.

Recent losses: Workhouse (though this was always boarded up) in Gifford Place it was framed cottage scale, like No 23. All the buildings that retained domestic front doors to the street (11, 14-17). The Adamesque fireplace in the front shop room of No 10 - is a replacement. The original was taken by architectural thieves. Above all cafes and places to gather - Coffee Pot and above all, the Whim. 25 - 27 are still obviously houses."

Much of the character and even quaintness of Cambridge lies in narrow little lanes like Green Street which, nestling within the heart of the city, hide



Macintosh & Sons Ltd - shop which fronted onto Market Hill stretched back as far as Green Street. (from Alger et al 1996).

names have changed ... Finch - Swann - Hurrell - Beales - Macintosh; but the business survived and prospered. The substantial and prominent building that was destroyed in the 1960s had been an important reflection of this success.

In 1875 Alexander Macintosh (the grandson of the original founder) was trading as a 'furnishing ironmonger, copper, iron, zinc and tin plate worker, whitesmith, bell hanger and cutler.'

'In 1936 'the powers to be' decided to raze all buildings from Christ's College to Emmanuel Street to the ground. Two loyal patients, George Stephen and P Gray advised me to secure fresh premises at once or I'd be reduced to selling patent medicines on a flag tray in the street.'

'George Stephen had married Miss Bodger and had already suffered the loss of his premises when they pulled down the block of old established premises - Pains (opticians) Bodgers and Almond, men's outfitters, to make room for Marks and Spencer and Sainsbury's in Sidney Street. Bodgers was now re-established at the corner of Green Street and Sidney Street and he offered me the three floor flat above his premises.'

Dr Salisbury Woods' waiting room was a shrine to his magnificent sporting career - cups, photographs, trophies and other sporting memorabilia catch the eye and distract the waiting patient. He has a particular interest in sporting injuries.

One 'sporting injury' that Dr Woods attended in the 1920s was the broken forearm of A N Gilbey, who as an undergraduate at Trinity between 1923-27 was a member of the 'roof climbers.' One night, A N Gilbey, better known as Monsignor Gilbey, the former chaplain to Fisher House, the catholic chaplaincy to Fisher House for Roman Catholic undergraduates, traversed the roof from 11 Green Street a famous lodging house to Whewells Court (opposite Jesus Lane) and back.

Dr Salisbury Woods tells the story of what happened.

'Sundry noises had aroused the intervening natives and when he completed his successful return he found a reception committee of landladies, the Proctors, the Police and the Fire Brigade. This so affected him he fell through his own skylight in his hour of triumph and broke his forearm, and that was where I came into this bit of Green Street history.'

Ironmongers

In 1962 the well known firm of A Macintosh and Sons Ltd closed down their Market Street business. The eighteenth century shop was demolished and the prime central city centre site stretching back some 250ft to Green Street was redeveloped.

There had been ironmongers trading on that site for over two hundred and eighty years since William Finch took over the Market Hill site in 1688. The

a wealth of interest from the casual passerby. People who have no occasion to stop and think of what goes on between the high grey walls of Green Street, are quite unaware of just how busy it is today and of what importance it was, particularly to the colleges, in years gone by.

Street improvements in the 19th century

Until 1819 the only access into Sidney Street from Green Street was through Green Street Passage, a narrow footway 120 feet long, which gave the street the shape of a bottle neck. Originally two houses projected some way

beyond the present building line, leaving only a very narrow passage, some ten yards long, through which pedestrians could gain entry to the street. In 1819, however, these houses were pulled down and Green Street acquired its present width at this east end.

GREEN STREET	
SOUTH SIDE	Carriageway Notes:
Footway GRANOLITHIC 4' 2"	Cost, 1901-11 £
Kerb 5' GRANITE	Length, 304' 4" Av. width, 13' 9"
Channel FORMED IN WOOD BLOCKS	Area, in sq. yds. 657
Carriageway WOOD BLOCKS	
NORTH SIDE	
Channel FORMED IN WOOD BLOCKS	
Kerb 5' GRANITE	
Footway GRANOLITHIC 4' 3"	Scavenging:
TOTAL WIDTH 22' 2"	Refuse Collection
SEE BACK OF CARD	

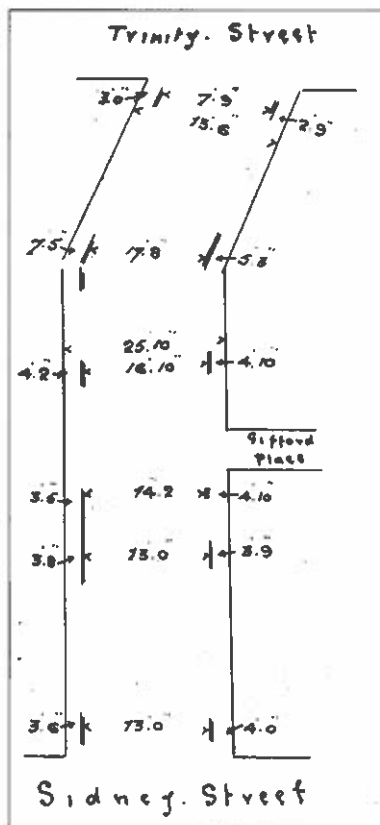
Description of Green Street (early 20th century) from record card held by City Council's Engineers Department.

In 1876, it was widened by five feet at the Trinity Street end, when the mediaeval, and reputedly 13th century Burden's Hostel, then occupied by the printing works of the 'Cambridge Express' newspaper, was replaced by the turreted stone building long famous as the Whim Cafe.

A comprehensive refurbishment of Green Street circa 1895 had introduced wood (pitch pine) brick size blocks laid in tar on a concrete base - the idea being to minimise the noise of carts with their iron hoop tyres - granite kerbs; granolithic concrete pavements. And with granite sett entrances to Eaden Lilley's.

20th century traffic problems

By the early 1960s a description of the street was published (Erica Dimock 1963) that could just as easily have been written in the late 1990s.



Plan of Street from record card held by City Council's Engineers Department

'But as the public hurries along this narrow by-way linking Sidney Street with Trinity Street, not one person can be oblivious of the congestion which mars its charm and causes one to hop on and off its insufficient pavement to skirt a hurriedly parked lorry or avoid being brushed by a passing car.'

For since the decline of the lodging house keeper in Green Street and the conversion of property to business premises, the street has been invaded by frustrated shoppers trying to find a parking place, by lorries unloading their wares and by harassed residents endeavouring to keep a clear space so that they can see out of their own front windows.

She goes on to explain that even those who have lived or worked in the street for years and would not contemplate moving anywhere else admit that the traffic situation gets them down. Most of them sincerely feel that Green Street should be a 'no parking' area and considering that not so very long ago it was no more than a short cut for students and the occasional townsman, one cannot help agreeing. She points

out that elderly people in particular have considerable difficulty in getting between the cars parked bumper to bumper both alongside and on the narrow pavement.

Further difficulties are experienced by the motorist who discovers that while he may enter or leave the Sidney Street end, he can only leave by that at Trinity Street. Frequently when travelling towards Sidney Street he gets shouted at for going the wrong way and if he tries to correct what is in fact no fault, he only confuses the situation further.

When lorries make deliveries to nearby shops and park outside the windows of Green Street houses, daylight is almost entirely blocked out

Jon also recalls one of the streets weekday rituals - the 12.30 sortie from No 10 led by Dickie Band, his (mature) girlfriend Anne in her beehive, her mother in her silver beehive, (both of course on heels), with Raymond Lister or Henry the Polish hardware seller from Eaden Lilley's basement, or Ted Searle or the young Alastair Lorimer in tow. At No 11 they'd find Mrs Dench waiting at the door, and Fred would shuffle along behind in his slippers. This procession would disappear round the corner of No 12 and into the Blue Boar via its garage and kitchen passage, and usually settle into the Athene Bar.

The best early memory Jon has of the street is of Jack the newspaper seller who had a pitch where the Lloyd's bank cashpoint now is, on the far side of Trinity Street where the shopfronts were cranked back round a covered entry - room enough for customers at the Alma Mater Toilet Saloon and Jack sitting on his chair, with his old bike leaning nearby. On sunny afternoons he'd be on the Whim corner, under the turret. The memory is the sound of his cry, or bark. What he seemed to be yelling was 'Women! Women! Fallen women! Look at all those **** fallen women!' Which, in reality, was '(((football results) all the) winners!' He had a noble head and severe spine curvature, and Jon remembers more than once seeing a bicycle, with a flat hat on the handlebars and unsold papers in the front basket, making its way riderless (apparently) home down the Jesus Lane pavement, and a voice coming from it which said ... 'Hip, hip Hip, hip Hip, hip,' until it disappeared into the dark.

Bodgers which were first established in 1851 in Sidney Street, employed one of the retired king pin cutters of Cambridge to work for them two days a week - Mr Dudley Newman, lately of Plenderleith's the tailors of King's Parade, who learnt his craft in London's Savile Row. He remembered when you could get a suit for 14 guineas. That was in 1929.

Dr Woods and the roof climber

Closely associated with Bodgers is a story concerning the former Olympic athlete and distinguished sportsman Dr Rex Salisbury Woods who occupied his consulting premises at 40 Green Street in the handsome flat over Bodgers since 1937. It is a fine early nineteenth century building with mediaeval origins.

How did he come to be there? His home was at 60 St Andrew's Street and was under threat and he told his story to Sara Payne.

Long-serving members of Eaden Lilley's staff recall the air-raid shelter in the cellar below the bedding department. In the thirties the bedding department was confined to the lower level, for the front of that part of the shop was Herbert Robinson's cycle shop. Herbert Robinson was father of David, of Robinson College/Rosie Maternity Hospital fame. Next to it were premises used for making pots, pans and other metalware for sale at Macintosh's.

In April 1999 it was announced that Eaden Lilley would be closing its department store. However the retention of the Photographers' shop will ensure the name lives on in Green Street.

Miscellany

Having worked in Green Street for more than 40 years, Mr Whitehead in an article by Erica Dimock recalled many of its old establishments and personalities; among these are the little coffee shop, wholesale toy store, bakery and cottages which have been replaced by Trinity College hostel and the garage of the Blue Boar hotel.

When Mr Whitehead first started cutting men's hair in Green Street, porters and waiters from nearby colleges would trundle their wicker trays along the street, delivering breakfast to their students or waiting upon them at private cocktail parties.

And one man who became a kind of institution in the street was Mr Freddy Fulcher, who would stand with his coster barrow, sometimes all day long, selling fruit to undergraduate customers. Undisturbed for hours on end, Mr Fulcher would find the situation very different nowadays.

Sara Payne recalled how Mrs King was very good on the history of 24 Green Street. She found out that a James Doo, the district rate collector and overseer to the poor in the local parishes had lived there in 1880. Mr Doo ended up with an office in the Guildhall, which is the way of local dignitaries.

Jon Harris, tells a nice story that ties in with the story of the parish pump told by Gray in the earlier chapter. 'I once had a visit from a friend, a parsee water diviner, who found a fast flowing channel of natural water running well below the foundations of this house from the direction of the top of Trinity Lane towards the top end of Jesus Lane.' That parish pump could have been on the corner of Gifford Place and Green Street.

and the occupants have to resort to electric light if they want to see what they are doing. Convenient though it is for the centre of the town, living in Green Street also has its drawbacks.

Better late than never....

A few years later the traffic situation was still a great concern and an article in the Cambridge Evening News on 10 February 1967 printed a graphic account of the problems faced by one trader.

Every time a lorry rumbles down Green Street the foundations of a 300 year old bookbinders shop shake... and it is worrying the shopkeeper. 'I'm afraid of the building eventually toppling' he said.

But the shaking foundations are not Mr H C C Band's only worries. For some large lorries which climb the pavement to get through the narrow street scrape the front of his shop breaking up the gold leaf gargoyles. Only a month after he had the front of his shop - J P Gray and Sons Ltd at 10 Green Street - repaired another vehicle bustled through and damaged the front which is recognised as one of the best in Cambridge. And the cost of repairing it is likely to be £300.



A lorry has to mount the pavement as it is directed successfully through the gap between another vehicle and Mr Band's shop (from Cambridge Evening News).

'If a lorry wheel goes over the grating at the front of the shop the whole place will come down - and it will be finished.'

In recent years the shop has received six major 'bangs' damaging the front and costing Mr Band about £700 in repairs.

'It is a colossal expense to me and I spend more time out in the street directing traffic to make sure my front is not damaged than I do in my own office.'

He has made suggestions to the Council on how the problem can be solved. 'But they have told me there is nothing they can do about it' he said.

Today two concrete bollards remain in the street to help protect this shopfront.

It took a further seven years before action was finally taken. The Cambridge Roads and Traffic Committee agreed on 3 October 1974 that Green Street should become one-way - from Sidney Street to Trinity Street - for the whole length instead of just the Trinity Street junction end. The Committee also decided that all vehicles except motor cycles should be banned from the street except for access - in a bid to cut congestion in one of the city centre's narrowest streets.

Now a further 25 years later the traders in the street have secured a comprehensive improvement of the street - and one they have been instrumental in initiating and managing to their preferred design.

Lodging houses

Green Street Passage was apparently known as Burden Hostel Lane because it led in earlier days to Burden Hostel, which occupied a site extending from what used to be Macintosh's Yard to a frontage facing Trinity Lane. It was for students of civil and canon law and faced on to Trinity Street, where the Whim Cafe and the adjoining Bank (possibly Fosters' Bank as a plaque can still be seen from a light well in Hobbs' reading 'Fosters Wall'), at the corner of Rose Crescent, once stood.

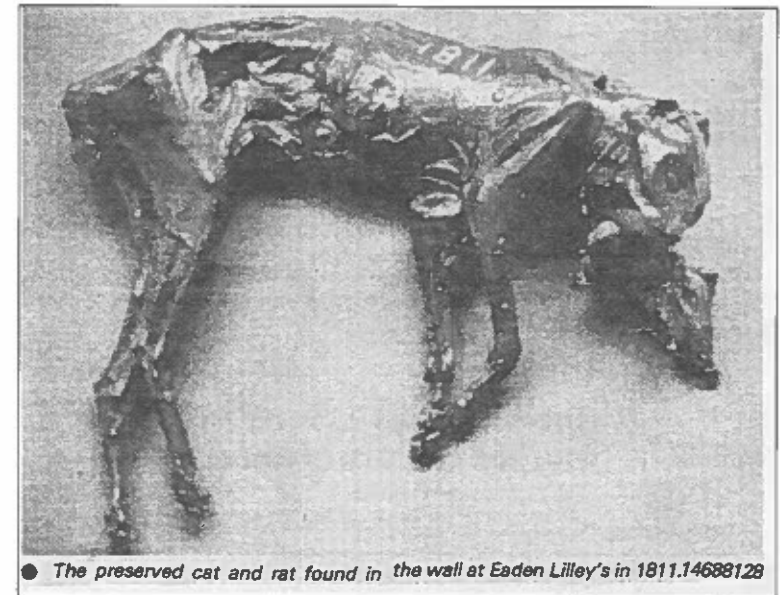
The hostel was in fact two buildings. According to Payne the one on the site of the bank was, in the 13th century, the property of an Archdeacon of Ely and came to be used by the students of Peterhouse. The adjoining premises on the Green Street corner, were originally known as Spalding's Inn, from

Company. A third, that of Mr T E Twinn, at No 5, could almost compete with Mr Whitehead, who retired in the 1970's, for length of time in Green Street.

Eaden Lilley

Eaden Lilley's furniture department has absorbed an old chapel into that section of the shop. The gallery is there, and at one end are the original windows of the chapel, which Mr Geoffrey Heath, one of the directors of Eaden Lilley, remembered containing coloured glass.

Eaden Lilley's have one rather macabre Green Street relic. Sara Payne tells the story of how in 1811 a dead cat with a rat in its mouth was discovered in a cavity wall during building operations. It is thought that seepage from a linseed oil tank was responsible for their Pompeii-like state of preservation.



● The preserved cat and rat found in the wall at Eaden Lilley's in 1811.14688128

Photograph from Cambridge Weekly News April 1981

The cat had the rat in its jaws, then may have got its head stuck in some railings where it then died. The linseed oil would have come from the basement of what was Lilley's oil shop.

The Whim

Built in the 1850s the Whim (which today is occupied by Hobbs) is fondly remembered by Jon Harris as the place where many people started or ended their working day. It was run by (Miss) Helen Thornber - the person who really ran the street and its affairs. She ran the place in such a way that nobody felt left out, not even Trevor Hughes the tramp, who Jon occasionally found bedded down at the foot of the Coffee Pot stairs and had to turf out. He was described as a most agreeable man who always had a hat and a buttonhole in his new jacket (he would get himself arrested just before Christmas, spend it in Bedford, and come out with some shining new garment) and he had first call on the sleeping pitch under the King's Chapel horse chestnut. Jon also recalls how Monsignor Gilbey held court and sorted young men's faith out there.

A lot of shop people went upstairs for lunch, eg Woolfy - Mr Woolfenden from the Cambridge Music Shop - father of Guy Woolfenden the RSC composer, who ran the Cambridge Festival, in his beret.

You cannot talk about cafes in Green Street without including Fullers cake shop which used to make ice-cream in the cellars of its premises at 40 Green Street, the shop which has been Bodgers, the robe makers and tailors since the 1930s. Before Fullers moved in, there was another cafe there, which during the First World War, so local memory has it, according to Payne, was a place of 'ill repute,' and there were 'goings on with the waitresses upstairs.'

Hairdressing

There is also a long tradition of hairdressing in Green Street which is still maintained today with Directors.

Apart from bear-keeper Crowson referred to previously, there was Len Whitehead who ran a barber's shop at 12 Green Street for 50 years and retired in the 1970s.

In addition to Mr Whitehead's business, there was that of E W Matthews at the Trinity Street end which recently moved from Sidney Street. The Matthews Brothers, Donald and Raymond who were famous for their mopeds which they parked outside, had a barber's shop at what was known in the street as the 'Cottage,' at 23 Green Street and is now the Wacky Hair

the name of its principal who was one of the first Fellows of Clare Hall. In the 14th century, the house was sold to the Prior of Ely and was used by student monks studying in Cambridge. Later, it passed again into the hands of Clare Hall and from then on, the two buildings generally known as Borden's Hostel, housed both Clare and Peterhouse members until 1539, when the property was sold to a Cambridge alderman who converted it to an inn called the White Swann.

Green Street has its fair share of hostels and lodging houses for undergraduates at Trinity and Caius Colleges. At the south side of the west end there are now Caius College lodgings and opposite is the extensive Bevan hostel 14-17 Green Street, an annexe of Trinity, run for many years with his wife by Len Brooker, the excellent and popular coach to the Cambridge University Amateur Boxing Club. Erica Dimock describes how it was built in 1950 has accommodation for 18 first year students and a flat for resident housekeeper, Mrs G Badcock. It is ideally situated for the men to go round the corner and into college for their meals.

Immediately opposite is another lodging house belonging to Gonville and Caius College but in the 1960s run as a private business enterprise by Miss I L Cottrill. Extending through Nos 25, 26 and 27, Green Street, this catered for a variety of residents including students, overseas visitors and holiday makers, who were apparently frequently referred to Miss Cottrill through local hotels.

Another student lodging house ran at No 11-12 by Mrs Fred Dench for over 30 years. She took eight students in her five storey house which stands on the site of what was once a very popular beer house known as the Highland Piper. Believed to have dated back over 300 years, the story goes that one notable gentleman who resided in it actually brought his horse within its portals. As Mrs Dench herself said in the article by Erica Dimock.

'We have had all sorts here. There's something about Green Street which makes it an exciting place to live in.'

Jon Harris recalls a further quotation from Mrs Dench.

'I only have nice young men here. All my men are nice young men.'

This, Jon explains, also included the future Monsignor who, on being chased across the roof tops by the University 'Bulldogs' fell through her hall skylight. She did not 'shop him' to the Proctors. More of this story later.

Today the street remains home to many students accommodated above shops in the street, in lodging houses bought by Trinity and Gonville and Caius who converted their upper parts for student use and in more recently constructed accommodation at Blue Boar Court.

Bookbinding

With its longstanding tradition for bookbinding premises it is perhaps appropriate to include in this history of Green Street a brief survey of one of the last to remain.

The story of John P Gray and Son Ltd began in 1847. The founder, John Phillips Gray, was born in Cambridge in 1824 and served his apprenticeship in his home town before going to London to work with the London Journeyman Bookbinders' Society.

Returning to Cambridge in 1847 he immediately went into business with a Mr William Armstrong at No 16 Green Street. The partnership did not last very long however and by 1850 Gray was on his own.

One move took him to No 14 Green Street and another to the last and according to Payne, very Dickensian premises at No 10, a description particularly appropriate to the purpose built sheds behind. It is probably the oldest building in the street and is a Grade II listed building which is a 'treasure house' of stunning architectural detail. It is described as having fine interior fittings including bolection moulded panelling, fireplace surrounds and the original ornate timber staircase. The fireplace is a replacement following the removal of the original by architectural thieves.

In the large room upstairs Mrs Maureen Ward and Mrs Babs Cornwell worked at their sewing frames for Grays the bookbinders. They wielded their bookbashes to knock the air from the pages, a process that is as old as the bookbinding business. The style of bookbinding goes back to the twelfth century.

One of the most unusual features of the house is that front room. During Regency times an interior decorator had his business there. The panels of marquetry and walnut on the walls are obvious examples of his style of work.

The business flourished and by the 1890s Arthur Beales Gray, the founder's son (and as already mentioned the author of 'Cambridge Revisited'), had

The Coffee Pot

When Mr and Mrs Sandy Moffatt moved into 24 Green Street in the summer of 1950, to open the Coffee Pot, they took on a minute cafe on the left hand side. Earlier this century the building was used for a variety of purposes, the Health Food Stores and another cafe known as the Wishbone.

Anyone entering the Coffee Pot for a light lunch or for what is claimed to be 'the best cup of coffee in Cambridge,' would be unlikely to realise that back in the 1830s, 24 Green Street was the Post Office, and a savings bank.

As Green Street was so narrow then, it is quite possible that the carriage bringing the mail to the Post Office came in through the back way by the Old Rose Tavern in Rose Crescent to unload the mail. Originally a single door served two ground floor shops each side of a passage. The bulk entrance was from Rose Crescent and pre-dates the 1826 buildings there, hence the big double doors on the bend of Rose Crescent. Jon Harris who has lived here for 35 years points out that the early frontage (c1795) was red brick with tall sashed windows. It acquired stucco, new windows and a tall roof 90 years later.

The Moffatts brought good coffee to Cambridge after the war. It was specially blended for them by a Canadian coffee merchant in London and in the early days Mr Moffatt used to grind the coffee by hand in the cafe.

Undergraduates were the Moffatts' first customers. 'It was very much like a club in those days.' Hard work too. In their first year they made £10 profit, but once established did better, and over the years served around three million customers.

Some 'glittering prize' names lived in the flats over the Coffee Pot in the Moffatts' time, including, according to Sara Payne, Peter Cook, John Bird, Andrew Sinclair and Ronald Bryden among others.

After a period serving kebabs to take away and sit down customers as Omar's and Oasis its settled down as the successful Thai restaurant Bangkok City.

of Macintosh's ironmongery, and the Stag's Head, later Thurston's Billiard Rooms and now part of Eaden Lilley's wholesale grocery store.

Before it was the Volunteer, it was the home of a barber called Crowson, who according to Arthur Gray (see previous chapter) and local legend, was renowned for his excellent bear's grease.

Derek Gibbons, who ran his antiquarian bookshop (his speciality was illustrated books for children) at 12 Green Street tells a curious sequel to the bear story which in itself has the ring of a Grimm's fairy tale. When the drains in Green Street flooded a quantity of bear fur was found to be blocking up the works.

With its entrance in Green Street the Stable Bar of the Turk's Head Grill in Trinity Street was opened following the conversion of what used to be Matthews Restaurant into a miscellany of chicken, ham and steak restaurants and bars.

The actual history of the main building goes back to the 16th century though it was in the 18th century that it came into prominence as a coffee house called in fact the Turk's Head. In 1804 it was purpose built as a banking hall for Fosters Bank which had moved across the Street and remained so until acquired and converted into the well known and very popular restaurant ran for many years by Mr Bernard Matthew.

The adaptations carried out by Berni Inns in the early 1960s cost over £20,000. Green Street's Stable Bar being very realistically furnished and decorated to give the impression of a stable with timber and rough cast walls, a fake ceiling of suspended wattle panels and an array of cartwheels, bridles and collars providing added authenticity.

Next door but one to the Coffee Pot was once the entrance to the yard of the Angel Inn, which had an imposing frontage on to Market Street. Many people will recall W Macintosh and Sons' large ironmongery shop in Market Street, which closed in 1962 and has since been replaced by the modern Barratt buildings. The Angel had, by then, shrunk to the small public house, of the same name, its former yard having been used by Macintosh for an extension to the shop premises, and as a delivery yard approached from Green Street.

been given charge of the finishing department. About this time, the work done at Gray's was described as being 'extremely miscellaneous, embracing everything from the stitched pamphlet to the Reure de luxe ... but the specialities of the house are map and plan mounting and the renovation or rebuilding of rare old worm-eaten books, early church registers and other works requiring a great deal of attention and skill.'

In 1919 the firm became a limited company and in the same year took over the business of G F Stoakley and Son who were then trading at No 30, Green Street, and whose trading sign can still be faintly seen painted on an outside wall above Eaden Lilley's loading entrance.

The Stoakley business had a history and reputation similar to those of J P Gray, both binderies having worked for many years for the University Library and various national institutions.

Twenty years later another local bookbinding firm, that of Cox and Allen of St Andrew's Hill, was also acquired, and it is interesting to note that Mr Arthur Cox, from whom the business was actually purchased, had in fact served his apprenticeship with J P Gray.

With Mr H C C Band, the Managing Director, having been associated with the firm since 1924 the story of J P Gray and Son Ltd was one of continued success and progress.



A reminder of the past - above Eaden Lilley's loading entrance.

Craft bookbinders of the highest order, its employees managed to preserve their standards against very considerable difficulties and undertook work, not only for our own University Library and colleges but for many famous collectors, for the Royal Society, the Royal College of Surgeons and other institutions.

Specialising in the restoration and repair of valuable books and manuscripts and in fine binding, it is perhaps surprising to learn in these days of ever increasing mechanisation, that everything at Gray's was done by hand. Erica Dimock noted that presentation volumes were bound for every member of the Royal Family.

Non conformist chapels

Green Street once had two Non conformist chapels in it. The earlier, occupying the sites of Nos 3, 4 and 5, was built in 1688. Enid Porter a local historian and founding keeper of the Folk Museum recounts how its history goes back to 1662 when Thomas Holcroft was deprived of his Fellowship of Clare College and of his living at Bassingbourn, on account of his Puritan principles. He gathered together many of his former Bassingbourn congregation and held meetings for them, and for others from nearby villages, in the woods at Great Eversden. From these assemblies others developed under the leadership of Holcroft's disciples. Private houses provided meeting places, and one of these was the home of a Mrs Petit in St Michael's parish, possibly in Green Street on the site of the meeting house which was to be built in 1688. The narrow passage which then existed at this end of the street would have provided a sheltered and inconspicuous way to the house.

By 1689, when dissenters were accorded a greater degree of freedom, the Green Street meeting house was built as a Congregational chapel. A few years later, some of the members of the Presbyterian meeting place which had been built, in 1867, on St Andrew's Hill, detached themselves when their minister, Joseph Hussey, was persuaded to adopt the Congregational form of church government. They joined the Green Street congregation and persuaded the minister there to make a converse change and to become Presbyterian!

In 1781, the Reverend Joseph Stittle came to the Green Street meeting house which came to be known as Stittle's Chapel. Born in Madingley in 1727, Stittle never learned to write, though he was able to read. His sermons, long and colourful, were preached extempore. He was often ridiculed by the

undergraduates of his day, both in the chapel and outside in the streets, but he had a large following of believers. Indeed, after his death in 1813, attendance at the chapel dropped considerably, and in 1819, as the lease of the meeting house was nearing its end, the congregation converted a room over livery stables, on the other side of the street, into a chapel. This lay behind the old Stag's Head Inn, now part of Eaden Lilley's goods entrance.

The old meeting place was then taken over by the Strict Baptists who used it until 1826, when they moved to their newly built Eden Chapel at the corner of Fitzroy Street and Burleigh Street. The meeting house was then demolished, and Stittle's body, which had been buried there, was transferred to Eden Chapel.

The new chapel behind 30 and 31 Green Street continued to be used by the Congregationalists until 1829 when the Wesleyans, who had been worshipping in Barnwell since 1815, took it over until 1850, when they moved to a new and larger building in Hobson Street, on the site of the County Hall. On their departure, the Green Street premises were used by the University Union Society until 1866, when their new premises in Bridge Street were erected.

Hotels and public houses

As far as hotels and public houses are concerned, the Volunteer was the last of those which used to be so popular in Green Street many years ago. The Volunteer pub at 8 Green Street (John Oliver haircutters and more recently Directors) was a nice place for Eaden Lilley staff to go for a celebration on Christmas Eve. It used to be run by Fred Mullins, an ex-heavyweight boxer although the last tenants were Mr and Mrs Eno. Jon Harris recalls how a plate of pie and beans was 1/9d.

It was extended a long time ago to incorporate neighbouring premises which had been used as a bakery by a Mr Christmas, whose main trade had come through the nearby colleges. The Volunteer was a popular meeting place for undergraduates who went there for what Mr Barsby, a former landlord, calls 'a social evening,' playing chess, skittles, billiards and draughts. Another attraction was the inter-college competition of drinking a yard of ale. According to Erica Dimock the record of 11.4 seconds is held by Sidney Sussex.

Those which have gone out of existence include the Highland Piper, the Angel which was eventually replaced by the recently demolished premises



Galloway & Porter

BOOKSELLERS
(Since 1902)

3 Green Street Cambridge

Secondhand/Antiquarian
Most subjects, including Classics,
Literature, History

BOOKS PURCHASED

All correspondence : 30 Sidney Street,
Cambridge, CB2 3HS

Telephone 01223 367876
Fax 01223 360705

**OPEN
AIR**

Specialist boot shop

29 Green Street

**Outdoor pursuits clothing and
equipment**

11 Green Street

Telephone 01223 324666

BIDWELLS
PROPERTY CONSULTANTS

We are pleased to have
been involved with the
**Green Street
improvements.**

Trumpington Road
Cambridge CB2 2LD

Telephone 01223 841841



**5 Green Street
Dogfish for men**

CLOTHING BY

STUSSY ● DIESEL ● CARHARTT ● NAPAPIJRI
55DSL ● SCHOTT ● DUFFER OF ST GEORGE
RED OR DEAD ● G-STAR ● EVISU ● SILAS

Catfish for women

CLOTHING BY

DIESEL ● CHIPIE ● SILAS ● STUSSY ● G-STAR
EVISU ● RED OR DEAD ● CARHARTT

FOOTWEAR AND ACCESSORIES BY DC'S
VANS CAMPER ● G-SHOCK WATCHES
MANHATTEN PORTAGE & JANSPORT BAGS
STUSSY JEWELLERY



City Centre Management works in partnership with
the public and private sector to make the City
Centre:

a better place to live
a better place visit
a better place to shop
a better place to be entertained
a better place to work
a better place to get to

Cambridge City Centre

A better place...

For more information contact: Lydia Bowman, City Centre Manager
Tel: 01223 457205 email: citycentre.manager@cambridge.gov.uk

HERO

Nicole
Farhi

Elsbeth
Gibson

Ghost

Whistles

Bruuns
Bazaar

John
Rocha



Weekend by Max Mara

Helen David English Eccentrics

John Smedley

Anne Storey

HERO, 12 GREEN STREET, CAMBRIDGE
Tel 01223 328740



Cambridge

The decorating specialists!

We have everything you need for

Stencilling & Paint Effects.

Join us on one of our regular

Specialist Workshops & learn the

art of successful decorating.

01223 351610

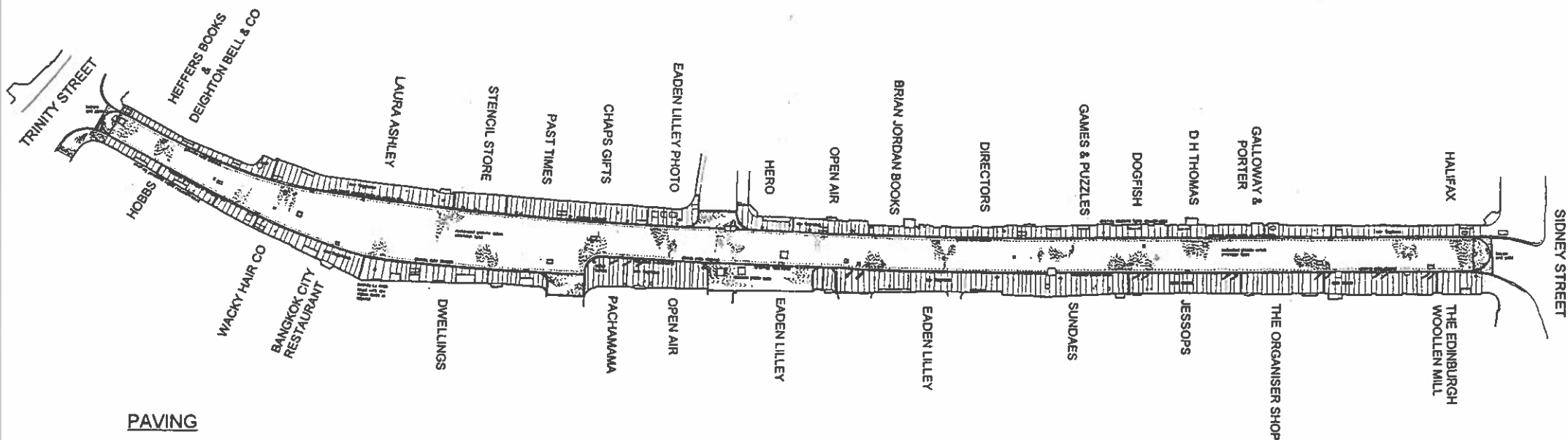
17 Green Street, Cambridge CB2 3JU

SUNDAES eccolet
real shoes for real feet





Arcus
Birkenstock
ecco
Green Comfort
Hogl
Josef Seibel
Rieker
Sundaes Sandals
Terra Plana
Think

36 GREEN STREET 01223 361636




THE 1999 IMPROVEMENT SCHEME



PAVING

-  York stone paving flags
-  Reclaimed granite sett carriageway
-  Reclaimed granite kerbs
-  Granite sett entrance details

NEW STREET FURNITURE - (all in green)

-  Sheffield hoop cycle racks
-  Cambridge bollards with reflective discs
-  Litter bins

STONE³