

No 2 Sydney Buildings



No 2 today

In **June 1812** The Right Honourable William Harry, Earl of Darlington sold the land to a builder **Walter Harris** of Bathwick, the money being loaned by two Bath bankers.

In the Bath Directory for **1819** Walter Harris the builder lived at No1 (today's No 2) and his son **J. Harris**, also a builder but a sculptor and modeller as well, lived at No 2 (today's No 3) with **Nathaniel Newport**, a builder.

In **July 1828** it seems that Walter Harris sold No 2 for £750.

It is not clear who bought the property but one **David Jenkins** of Hinton Charterhouse, named in the original purchase of land, who died in **1852**, left it to James Taylor and Issac Golledge and their heirs, who held it in trust for his nephew **William Jenkins** until he reached age of 21.

Subsequently William's daughter **Catherine Elizabeth Jenkins**, his only child, married **Rev John George James** M.A. D.Litt. She died a widow in April **1940** having made Lyndhurst George Groves and Sidney John Abraham her trustees and executors.

It thus appears No 2 had actually been owned by one family from the time of building for over a century the occupants initially family and later being tenants. According to the **1901** census the occupants at No 2 was a family called Hotham. [The Hotham family seems to have lived at No 2 since at least 1876; before that people called Brewer (1871 census), Dowding, McAdam (1861 census) and a Miss Ball from No 1 (1851 census)].

In **February 1946** Catherine Jenkins trustees and executors Lyndhurst George Groves (solicitor in Southsea) and Richard George Schovell (funeral director and builder also of Southsea) sold it to **Dr Scott-White** practicing at 2 Green Park but living at the Paddock, Frome Road, Combe Down for £1,850. He also owned house in Royal Crescent. He had a tenant in the house, Miss Dorothy Dyne Muller who paid an annual rent of £750.

In **June 1961** Dr Scott-White died and his wife Dorothy Wilson Scott-White inherited it. Then in August **1962** Dorothy Scott-White died. There was then a gap as their original executors had also died, but in **September 1967** Eric Arthur Candy (solicitor) Arthur George Dawkins (solicitor) sold the property to **Gerald Alfred White** of Downside House Camerton, for £4,100.

In **March 1970** Gerald Alfred White sold it to **Richard Ian Harkness Baker** and **Rosemary Baker** for £8,500 (the Halifax mortgage was £4,000).

August 1972: building was listed.

May 1975: included in conservation area.

In **May 1976** the Bakers sold it to **Mrs Vivienne Hazel John Sligh** of Rose Cottage West Harptree for £23,000 (The British Waterways rental was then £2 pa. Bath Springs – Section 33 County of Avon Act 1982 required that any excavations or borings deeper than 5 metres may require a licence.)

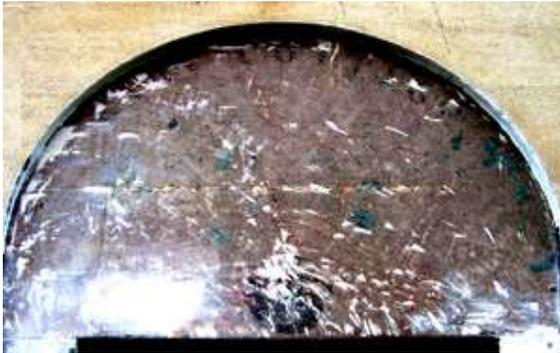
In **March 1985** her executors, Virginia Hazel Henshaw and David Ritchie Norris (solicitor), sold it to **Terrance Edward Fitzherbert Jones** and **Lilian Dowie Jones**, amount unknown as the price on the documents has been erased. The British Waterways rent was then £10 pa.

In **July 1985** it had treatment for woodworm in the roof, rising damp chemical injection treatment, tanking and new solid floors in the basement to replace rotten wooden floors.

February 2002: owners obtained retrospective planning permission for the connecting doors at ground level and the French doors into the garden.

In **October 2003** the Jones sold it to **Anthony and Frances Anne White** for £592,000 when the British Waterways rent was £100 pa index linked!

February 2004: planning permission for external and internal alterations including new door, damp-proofing vaults and new sash window.



'Raby Cottage' can be just seen below the line of the arch

In **2005** when the front door was stripped and repainted we found that the stone over the door had the name **Raby Cottage** on it. This would have fitted in with No 1 being 'Raby House'.

Extracts from the deeds by Tony White

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BUILDING NOTE:

"We've found a black and white photograph of house 2-3-4 dated June 1994. Nothing terribly remarkable except to show how dirty 3 & 4 were then and that the windows are now a little bit different. We also discovered that the window reveals on No 2 which are all angled unlike neighbouring houses, was a Victorian alteration."



Email from Tony White

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