

A compilation of data from the early 1800s to the early 1900s for Plough Yard, one of the alleys running down to the river Brent from Brentford High Street. To see other documents about this area: http://www.bhsproject.co.uk/RO_py.shtml

Plough Yard

Runs off the south side of the High Street and approached between numbers 114 and 115.

On the eastern and western corners of the High Street approach were:

No. 114: Grocers/tea dealers: John Coles 1839 – 1871; Frank Trussell 1881; later: butchers Edward Jones 1901; S Bishop & sons 1913; then the Maypole Dairy 1920 – 1940

No. 115: In the 1844 Poor Rate this is described as a house, shop & slaughterhouse, owned by Sexton, occupied by Robert Goring. Robert Goring, butcher, is listed here in the 1841 census. In 1851 and 1861 Joseph Rutter, greengrocer, lived here.

No. 115 was a C16 building, demolished in 1878 and rebuilt; auctioneers (Saunders and Taylor, then Bradshaw Brown) were here from 1901 – 1940. Buildings used by Selwyn Estates in 1983 (C 18).

Records prior to the 1838 tithe:

The Jones family's coal, corn, and malting business, based on Catherine Wheel Yard until 1821, included at least two malthouses from **1779**, one at Plough Yard and another at the Black Boy and Still inn. (fn. 36)

From: 'Ealing and Brentford: Economic history', A History of the County of Middlesex: Volume 7: Acton, Chiswick, Ealing and Brentford, West Twyford, Willesden (1982), pp. 131-44. URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.asp?compid=22579>. Date accessed: 18 August 2007.

The 1811 census records three households in Plough Yard, household heads named

- William Pepper
- Samuel Bolton
- Henry Woods

The total number of occupants: 16.

See http://www.bhsproject.co.uk/list_NBtenants_1810.shtml for more details.

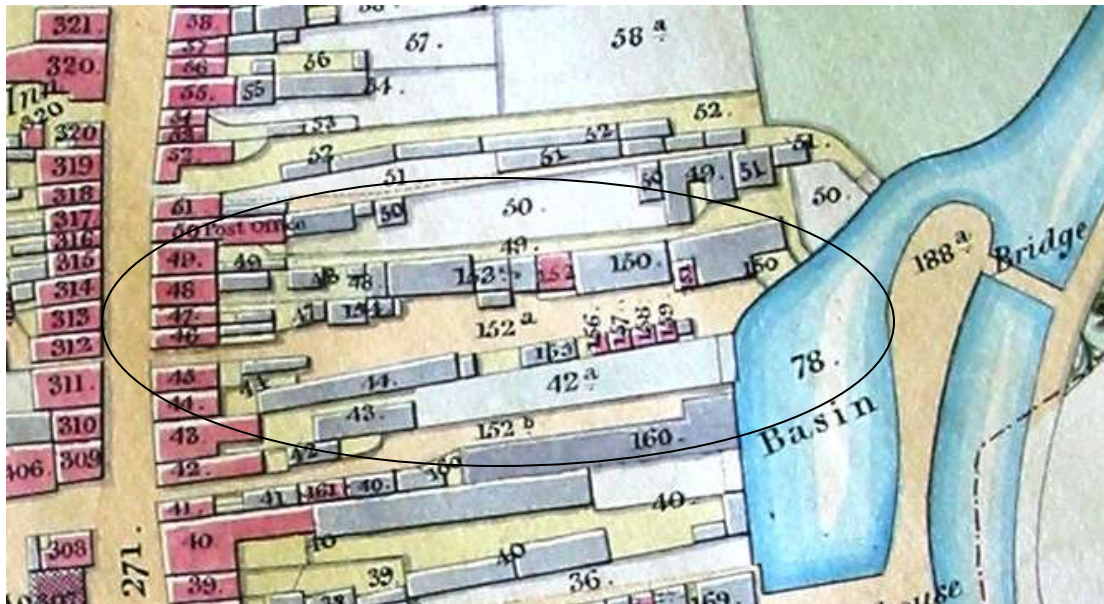
Tithe, Poor Rate and 1841 census

These records spanning six years provide much detail:

- a picture of the location of inhabited properties in 1838 (tithe map)
- a brief description of the properties and the surnames of owners and occupiers in 1844 (Poor Rate)
- occupants, their approximate ages (aged over 15 were often rounded down to the nearest 5 years), occupations and an indication whether they were Middlesex born or not (1841 census).

The **1838** tithe map for New Brentford shows Plough Yard (152a) leading south off the High Street between tithe refs 46 & 45 (114 and 115 High Street), down to the eastern end of the 'Basin', later Brentford Dock. It runs to the east of Bradshaw's Yard, marked 152b below.

North < > South



Not far into the yard on the western side is a long building (ref 44), unoccupied and owned as part of 116 High Street (also ref 44). The **1844** Poor Rate records for no. 116 a 'house shop shed yard & stable' owned by Sexton and occupied by William Sheldon.

Six properties were occupied in 1838: four small terraced cottages are shown in **1838** on the western side of Plough Yard, not far from the waterside, refs 156, 157, 158, 159.

On the eastern side are two separate properties: a small cottage (151) and a larger house (152). Other buildings were not occupied; the 1844 Poor Rate provides more information about these.

The **1844 Poor Rate** lists the properties and owners in Plough Yard as follows:

No.	Name of occupier	Name of owner	Description of property rated	Gross estimated rental
413	Pearce	W Welch	Shed etc	£2 10s 0d
414	Pearce	W Welch	Shed etc	£4 4s 0d
415	Sheldon	Potter	Sheds & storehouse	£9 0s 0d
416	Couper	Warne	Cottage	£4 12s 0d
417	Warne	Paddon	Houses & malhouses	£23 4s 0d
418	Warne	Paddon	Coal shed	£2 10s 0d
419	Heath	Potter	Cottage	£4 0s 0d
420	Bolton	Potter	Cottage	£4 0s 0d
421	Berry	Potter	Cottage	£4 0s 0d
422	Higgins	Potter	Cottage	£4 0s 0d
423	Potter	Turner	Shed	£2 10s 0d
424	James Pearce	Turner	Shed	£4 4s 0d

Presumably the four cottages (419 – 422) listed together are the four terraced properties in the tithe map.

1841 census:

Recorded as Plough Yard; 7 properties in all

Name	Age	Occupation	Born in Middx?
Thomas Newman	30	Stone sawyer	Y
Eliza "	20		Y
Charles "	10		Y
Sophia Lee	10		Y

Based on sequence, it seems possible this family lived in the house, ref. 152 in the tithe map.

Thomas & Eliza and family were living in Baileys Row at the time of the 1851 census.

Edward Fidler	50	Gardener	Y
Mary "	46		N

An Edward and Mary Fidler, ages 58 and 57, he a garden labourer, were living on Brook Lane, Old Brentford in 1851 with a son James Fidler, 32 and lodger, Sarah Stedman, age 23, a laundress; this seems likely to be the Edward and Mary found n 1841.

George Heather	66	Labourer	Y
Ann "	67		Y

Probably 'Heath' in the Poor Rate of 1844, so it is likely this couple lived in one of the four cottages.

Samuel Bolton	70	Labourer	Y
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Mary “	70		N
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A Samuel Bolton was recorded in the 1811 census and this could be the same man; he was ‘Bolton’ in the 1844 Poor Rate and this places the couple in one of the four terraced-cottages.

In the 1851 census the above couple appear as Samuel and Mary **Boughton**, aged 82 and 81, parish paupers living in Castle Yard.

Moses Carter	30	Labourer	N
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William Clarke	86	Labourer	N
Mary “	35		Y

William Cooper	35	Labourer	Y
Ann “	35		N
William “	15		N
Mary “	14		Y
Alfred “	9		Y
Thomas “	7		Y
James “	5		Y
Prudence “	2		Y
William Taint	2		Y
William Francis	25	Labourer	Y
Mary “	20		Y
William “	4		Y
Marian “	2		Y

This is likely to be ‘Couper’ recorded in the 1844 Poor Rate: in which case they probably lived in the cottage with ref. 151 (although it looks a small property for such a large household).

By 1851 the Cooper family had moved to The Ham.

Censuses: 1851 – 1901

These show the occupants of Plough Yard in more detail than 1841: birthplaces and ‘exact’ ages are given; the relationship between the head of the household and other occupants is also given.

The entries are listed in the order they appear in the census: the enumerator may have noted details starting at the High Street end, but could have either recorded the eastern or western side first – or he may have taken each property as he passed it, left or right. The enumerator may have recorded houses in a different order in each census too.

So it is not possible to say who lived where in the 1851 – 1871 censuses. Even in 1881, when house numbers are used, without knowing how the houses were numbered it is not possible to say who lived where.

1851 Census:

There are six houses recorded between numbers 116 and 117 which seems likely to be Plough Yard, as this matches the number of occupied properties recorded in 1844 (Poor Rate). There are no names that match those from the 1844 Poor Rate.

Schedule no. 86

Joseph Brown	Head	Mar	51	Labourer	Hanwell Mdx
Eliza "	Wife	Mar	38		Brentford Mdx
Charles "	Son		12	Scholar	"
Ellen "	Dau		11	"	"
William "	Son		7	"	"
Ann E "	Dau		2		"
Alfred "	Son		1 m		"
Joseph "	Son		15	Labourer	"

By 1861 the Brown family had moved to Catherine Wheel Yard.

Schedule no. 87

Ann Brown	Head	Wid	77		Uxbridge Mdx
Mary "	Dau	Unm	30	Charwoman	Brentford Mdx

Schedule no. 88

George Bowley	Head	Wid	50	Labourer	Isleworth Mdx
Robert "	Son	Unm	23	"	Brentford Mdx
Solomon "	Son	Unm	18		"
Rebecca "	Dau		13		"
Nathan "	Son		9		"

Schedule no. 89

Charles Martin	Head	Mar	21	Blacksmith	Brentford Mdx
Charlotte "	Wife	Mar	21	Dress maker	"

Charles Martin married **Mary** Allum at St Mary, Ealing, 24 Sep 1849, a builder and son of John Martin, broker; his wife Mary was the daughter of John Allum horse keeper, and both parties were single and of Old Brentford. The marriage was witnessed by John Martin and **Charlotte** Martin. Whilst the timing is about right, the difference in occupation and name of his wife suggests this is a different couple; so there may be two Charles Martin, locally, of a similar age

In 1841 a Charles Martin, age 11, was living with his parents and siblings at 10 Cannon Alley, Old Brentford; his parents were William Martin, labourer, and Mary. He may be the person found in the 1851 census.

At present there is no firm sighting of Charles (blacksmith or builder) in 1851. A little mystery.

Schedule no. 90

John M Crook	Head	Mar	56	Whitesmith	Bow Brick Hill
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					Bucks
Sarah M “	Wife	Mar	50		Isleworth Mdx
Anne M “	Dau	Unm	18	Servant	Brentford Mdx
Jane M “	Dau		9	Scholar	“
John M “	Son		6	“	“
Eliza M “	Dau		4	“	“
George M “	Son		2		“

The Crook family had moved to Hammersmith by the time of the 1861 census.

Schedule no. 91

John Eillman	Head	Mar	56	Ostler	Crawley Sussex
Ann “	Wife	Mar	50		Worth Sussex
Maria “	Dau		14	Servant	Crawley Ssx
Mary “	Dau		12	Scholar	“
Ellen “	Dau		9	“	“
Eli “	Son		6	“	“

1861 Census: Plough Yard was recorded immediately before John N Coles, occupier of 114 High Street, and comprised one household followed by five uninhabited properties:

Schedule no. 51

John Myers	Head	Mar	46	Ag Lab	Ireland
Mary “	Wife	Mar	30		“
John “	Son		2		Brentford Mdx
Lucy Baker	M-in-L	Wid	60		Ireland
Patrick Myers	Head	Mar	30	Ag Lab	“
Margaret “	Wife	Mar	28		“
Patrick “	Son		1		Brentford Mdx

The Myers had moved to the Brentford from Ireland within the last decade (not found in the 1851 census).

1871 census: what was more usually called Plough Yard was recorded as **Coles’s Yard** in this census, after John Cole, the grocer who lived at no. 114 High Street, eastern corner of the yard:

Schedule no. 164

Name	Relations hip to Head	Condition	Age	Occupation	Place of Birth
James Roberts	Head	Mar	35	Hostler (Ostler?)	Brentford Mdx
Emma “	Wife	Mar	35	Laundress	“
Harriett “	Dau		11	Scholar	“
James “	Son		8	“	“
Emma “	Dau		5	“	“
Sarah “	Dau		2		“

Ten years previously, in 1861, James & Emma Roberts were living in Red Lion Yard.

Schedule no. 165

Robert Warner	Head	Mar	71	Labourer	Spurshall (Sparsholt?) Hants
Ann "	Wife	Mar	65	Fruit basket maker	Brentford Mdx
Caroline "	Dau	Unm	25	Fruit basket maker	"

Ten years previously, in 1861, Ann Warner and children, including Caroline, aged 15, were living in Catherine Wheel Yard

Schedule no. 166

George Field	Head	Mar	49	Labourer	Isleworth Mdx
Eliza "	Wife	Mar	49		Brentford Mdx
William "	Son		13	Scholar	"
Charlotte "	Dau		11	"	"
James "	Son		5	"	"

Ten years previously, in 1861, George & Eliza were living on the east side of the Market Place. In 1851 they were living on The Ham.

Schedule no. 167

David Fitzgerald	Head	Mar	70	Labourer	Ireland
Bridget "	Wife	Mar	55	Labourer in garden	"

Schedule no. 168

Charles Brown	Head	Mar	52	Labourer	Bishops Stortford Herts
Eliza "	Wife	Mar	44		Birchanger Essex
Charles "	Son	Unm	17	Labourer	Bramley Mdx
John "	Son		7	Scholar	Brentford Mdx
Alice E "	Dau		2		

In 1861 the above family was living in Poplar. By 1881 Charles, Eliza and family had moved to Bradshaw's Yard.

Schedule no. 169

John Jones	Head	Mar	69	Labourer	Ipswich Suffolk
Sarah "	Wife	Mar	68		Marcham Berks
George Biven	Son-in- law	Mar	26	Labourer	Brentford Mdx
Sarah "	Dau	Mar	24		"

Sarah “	Grand dau		3	Scholar	“
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In 1861 John & Sarah Jones were living at Red Lion Yard.

1881 census

5 households were recorded:

No. 1 Plough Yard

Name	Relationship to Head	Condition	Age	Occupation	Place of Birth
Bridget Fitzgerald	Head	Widow	63	Agricultural labourer	Ireland
Kathlaune Hegerty	Boarder	Unm	22	“	“

No. 2 Plough Yard

Jeremiah Pyne	Head	Mar	43	Gardener	Ireland
Johannah “	Wife	Mar	44	Garden woman	“
Patrick R “	Son		11	Scholar	Brentford Mdx
Richard “	Son		9	Scholar	“
Jeremiah “	Son		15	Agricultural labourer	“

No. 3 Plough Yard

William Field	Head	Mar	23	General labourer	Brentford Mdx
Mary A “	Wife	Mar	22	Laundress	“
William “	Son		3		“
Emily “	Dau		2		“
Alfred “	Son		1		“

No. 4 Plough Yard

Robert Warner	Head	Widr	81	No occupation	Sporshall (Sparsholt?) Hants
William Swainson	Son-in-law	Mar	36	Waterman	Isleworth Mdx
Caroline “	Dau	Mar	35	Garden labourer	Brentford Mdx

William & Caroline Swains(t)on had moved to Bradshaw’s Yard by the time of the 1901 census.

No. 5 Plough Yard

Donald Cronin	Head	Mar	45	Garden labourer	Ireland
Elizabeth “	Wife	Mar	34	“	“
David “	Son		10	Scholar	“
Daniel “	Son		8	Scholar	“
Cornelius “	Son		5	Scholar	Tredegar Wales

Kate “	Dau		2		Brentford Mdx
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1891 Census

Only one household recorded:

No. 1 Plough Yard

Dennis Keeffe	Head	Mar	50	Agricultural labourer	Kentwik ? Ireland
Ellen “	Wife	Mar	50	Laundress	“
Patrick “	Son		19	Agricultural labourer	“
David “	Son		12	Scholar	Brentford Mdx
Kate “	Dau		9	“	“
Julia “	Dau		7	“	“
Bridget O Shea	Lodger	Wid	60		‘Lymrick’ Ireland

In 1881 the Keeffe family was living at Sion Park Place, Isleworth, Dennis a market garden labourer age 33, Ellen 32. Patrick the son was married, a carter, living at 23 Catherine Wheel Yard in 1901.

1901 Census:

Only one household recorded:

No. 1 Plough Yard

Denis O Keefe	Head	Mar	50	Agricultural labourer	Ireland
Ellen “	Wife	Mar	54		Ireland
Julia “	Dau	Unm	17	Laundress	Brentford Mdx
Daniel Doly (Daly?)	Boarder	Unm	24	Agricultural labourer	Ireland
Maurine O Connell	Boarder	Unm	25	“	“
Timothy Driscoll	Boarder	Unm	23	“	“
Edmond O Connell	Boarder	Unm	28	“	“

Band family

James Band, from a family of Bermondsey tanners, established his own firm of parchment makers at a tannery in Boston Road near Park chapel in 1845. The firm moved c. 1910 to Plough Yard, the premises being extended during the Second World War. There were 70 employees c. 1960 and 80 c. 1975 but only 15 in 1978, by which date they also produced chamois leather and all kinds of vellum. (fn. 62)

From: 'Ealing and Brentford: Economic history', A History of the County of Middlesex: Volume 7: Acton, Chiswick, Ealing and Brentford, West Twyford, Willesden (1982), pp. 131-44. URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.asp?compid=22579>.

1911 Kellys Directory for Ealing, Acton, Hanwell, Brentford, Gunnersbury and Chiswick

Plough Yard:

Henry Band and Co., parchment manufacturers

1914 Kelly's Ealing, Hanwell, Brentford & Southall Directory

As 1911