

A compilation of data from 1838 to the early 1900s focusing on Catherine Wheel 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_cwy.shtml

Catherine Wheel Yard

Runs off the south side of the High Street between numbers 97 and 98. Named after the Catherine Wheel public house, which was at no. 94 and backed on to the yard.

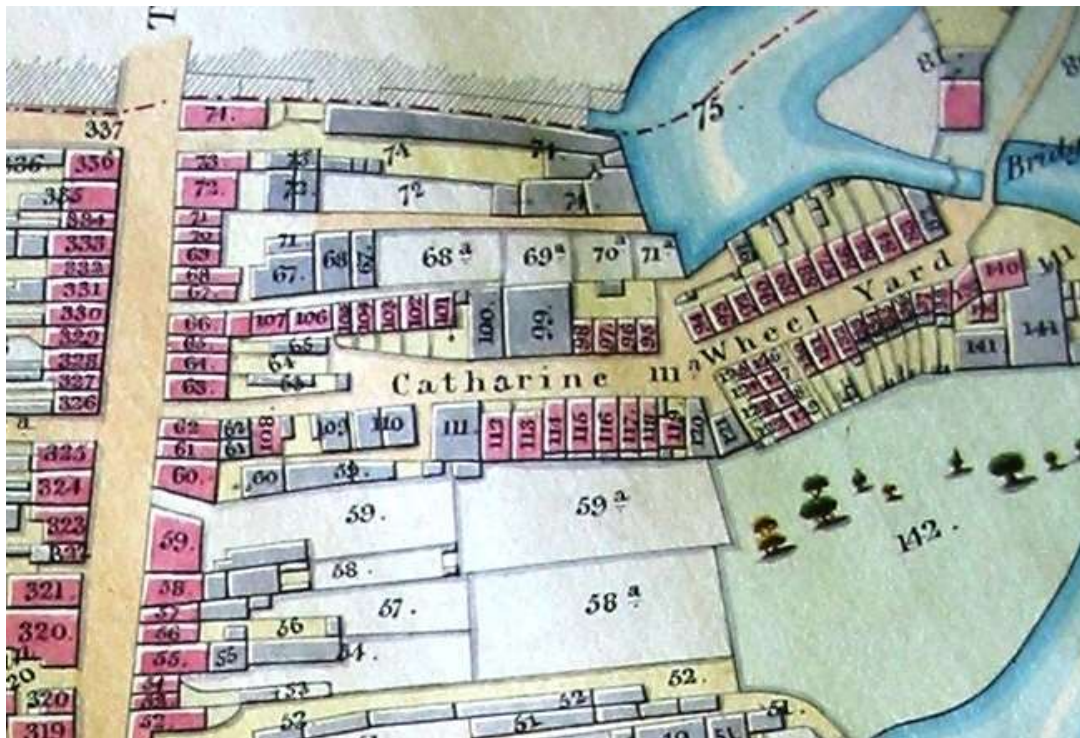
Number 97: a clothiers and tailors in 1841 through to 1871; a grocers in 1881 and the Home & Colonial Stores by 1913 [tithe ref 63 in map below]

Number 98: Barleycorn Beerhouse in 1841 through to early C20; later a confectioners, then a café [tithe ref 62 in map below]

Reference to a house and malthouse in Katharine Wheel Yard in New Brentford (1735) (see The National Archives references at the end).

Tithe map (1838)

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The tithe map shows over 40 properties on the east and west side of the Yard, the pink ones are inhabited. Those numbered 101 to 107, on the eastern side, may be approached from the High

Street between numbers 93 & 94. A set of four back to backs ran off the western side of Catherine Wheel Yard.

John Hancock was born in one of the cottages numbered 112 – 119 (1920s/30s) and remembers steps up to the front door as the area was prone to flooding. (From a conversation at the Landmarks Weekend 11 August 2007)

1841 Census Summary of Buildings

Page	Inhabited Buildings	Uninhabited Buildings
P7	11	1
P8	10	1
P9	11	0
P10	7	0
P11	4	0
Total	43	2

1844 Poor Rate summary

Cottages	44	15 owned by M Sims; 6 by Brown (Dewell); 4 by Whitman; 3 by Dourey (Dorey?); 2 by Neville; 2 by Bontems; 2 by Robinson; 2 by Hannadine; 2 by Long (Richmond); 1 each by Annand, Jno Brown, Dancer, Fowell, Grainger (Haynes), Thos Piper,
Houses	3	2 owned by Crook*; 1 by Montgomery
Sheds	6+	
Coal shed	1	
Warehouses	2	One owned by Hazell and occupied by William and Henry Jupp; one owned by Montgomery and occupied by Rogers
Wharves	2	Both owned by Montgomery and occupied by Rogers
Stables	3	
Brewhouse	1	Owned by Crook
Workshops	1	Henry John Robinson was the occupier, also the owner

*Crook owned 2 houses, a brewhouse, stable and sheds which were occupied by Gearey.

'The Grand Junction brewery, Catherine Wheel Yard, New Brentford, was worked from 1826 by James Crooks, in 1845-8 by William Gearey' (Ealing & Brentford Economic History)

Masons Court Guide & Directory 1853

Louisa Rogers, barge owner
 Thomas Stannay, waterman
 S & C Gearey, Grand Junction Brewery

1871 Census Summary

44 households were recorded living in 40 properties (eg 172 & 173 shared one property). There were 161 inhabitants in total.

Schedule	Name	Age	Occupation	Birthplace	No. in household incl head	Lodgers etc
170	Mrs Emma Baker	39	laundress	Twickenham Mdx	4	
171	Francis Weedon	45	milkman	Whickenden Bucks	9	
172, 173	Jeremiah McCarthy	56	labourer	Ireland	5	
172, 173	Mrs Bridget Donoghue	35	labourer in garden	Ireland	1	
174	Patrick Griffin	42	labourer in garden	Ireland	5	1 lodger
175	Edward Tidey	38	publican	Brentford Mdx	7	
176	James Grubb	36	drover	Brentford Mdx	1	
177	Mrs Eliza Dowdell	44	laundress	Isleworth Mdx	3	
178	John Faulkner	29	coachsmith	Portsmouth Hants	6	
179	Joseph Taylor	25	waterman	Twickenham Mdx	2	
180	James Willis	30	labourer	Brentford Mdx	2	
181	Thomas Lambert	61	labourer	Brentford Mdx	3	
182	Robert Piercey	53	lighterman	Brentford Mdx	5	1 visitor, 1 boarder
183	William T Burrows	78	carpenter	Brentford Mdx	2	
184	Mrs Mary Ann Rutter	55	washerwoman	Brentford Mdx	2	
185	Thomas R Stanney	69	waterman	St Martin in the Fields London Mdx	5	
186	Thomas Moles	59	waterman	Brentford Mdx	5	
187	Henry Prince	30	waterman	Brentford Mdx	5	
188	Henry Jackson	31	agent to lighterman etc	Bollington Cheshire	4	1 servant
189	Thomas Berry	60	lock keeper	Uxbridge Mdx	10	
190	William Gomm	53	brewer emp 12 men 1 boy	Brentford Mdx	4	
191	Richard Hughes	50	publican	Brentford Mdx	6	1 lodger
192	Thomas Terry	74	foreman in brewery	Thackham Ssx	2	
193	William Brown	21	labourer	Brentford Mdx	2	
194	Henry Crocker	26	labourer	Reading Berks	3	
195	William Robins	37	porter	Isleworth Mdx	2	
196	William Benham	71	labourer	Heckfield Hants	3	
197	Mrs Susanna Plastine	74	charwoman	Brentford Mdx	4	
198, 199	James Towe	28	labourer	Brentford Mdx	6	
198, 199	Mrs Caroline Cole	58	charwoman	Brentford Mdx	1	
200	Charles Perkins	47	labourer	Brentford Mdx	2	
201	James Arms	32	waterman	Chiswick Mdx	2	
202	James Chelton	38	labourer	Brentford Mdx	2	
203	John Ede	33	labourer	Malta British Subject	3	
204	William H West	31	labourer	Brentford Mdx	2	

206	Miss Catherine West	31	charwoman	Brentford Mdx	4	
207	Robert Platt	27	waterman	Brentford Mdx	3	
208	Mrs Sarah Hughes	45	charwoman	Waltham Berks	4	
209, 210	William Huntley	26	carter	Cladford Wilts	4	
209, 210	William Filby	31	bargeman	Southall Mdx	2	1 servant
211	Charles J Topper	69	porter	Chelsea Mdx	3	1 lodger
212, 213	George Archer	38	labourer	Newbury Berks	4	
212, 213	Thomas Penton?	58	labourer	Kings Wood Glos	2	
214	Patrick Kelly	42	boot maker	Ireland	5	
				Total occupants in 1871	161	

PO 1874

William Gomm, brewer & maltster, Beehive Brewery
 John Horrobin, farrier
 Thomas Green, beer retailer
 Mrs Elizabeth Kinner, wheelwright

1881 Census Summary

By 1881 CWY had been numbered. The 1911 trade directory entries indicate the even numbers were on the western side, the odd numbers on the right. In the census the properties are recorded in numerical sequence – suggesting either the enumerator went from side to side or that there was a renumbering at some stage.

The number in brackets below is the no. of properties.

Page	Inhabited	Uninhabited	Notes
17	Nos. 1 – 2 (2)	(0)	
18	Nos. 3 – 8 (6)	(0)	Includes the Watermans Arms at no. 5 and a one-week old baby, Joseph Taylor, at no. 2
19	Nos. 9 – 17 (9)	(0)	
20	Nos. 18 – 19 (2)	(0)	Includes Staffordshire Wharf (1) between numbers 17 & 18
21	Nos. 20 – 24 (5)	(0)	
22	Nos. 25 – 33 (9)	(0)	
23	Nos, 34 – 38 (5)	(0)	
24	Nos. 39 – 42 (4)	(0)	
25	No. 43 (1)	44 (1)	
Total	43	1	

1891 Census Buildings Summary

Page	Inhabited	Uninhabited
28	3	0
29	5	0
30	6	0
31	6	0
32	7	0
33	10	0
34	6	0
35	1	0
Total	44	0

The houses were numbered 1 – 44: picking out a few entries -

18: Private House: William J Taylor, canal carriers warehouseman, aged 45, bn Barrow on Soar, Leics, wife plus 6 children 2 – 16, one or more from previous marriages?

19: G J Canal Lock House: Henry Allen, aged 41 bn Norwood, wife Eliza 4 sons and daughter

20: Brewery House: Edward Henderson, aged 35, brewery collector, bn Brentford, wife

21: Brewery Tap: Thomas Green, age 49, lighterman & beerhouse keeper, born Haywards Heath; married, wife Caroline, 8 children all born Brentford, aged 2- 19, eldest son, Frederick W, a lighterman apprentice; also in household: George Cripps, brewers drayman, widower, aged 65 bn Acton

Kelly's 1894 Directory

Fred Keevil, shoeing smith

Andrew Joseph Bridgman, boat & barge builder

William Brown, beer retailer

William Gomm & Son, brewers & maltsters, Bee Hive Brewery

Thomas Green, beer retailer

Hugh Hughes, canal carrier & lighterman, Staffordshire Wharf, CWY

Warlow & Co, sack contractors, Staffordshire Wharf, CWY

1909/10 Valuation Records

Catharine Wheel Yard properties were allocated numbers 364-388 on the western side, with no. 389 = Beehive Brewery and numbers 409-396 on the eastern side, with no. 409 at the High Street end. Number 392 was Staffordshire Wharf.

The details of the properties appear in the following books held at TNA:

IR 58 40145 New Brentford 301 – 400
IR 58 40146 New Brentford 401 – 500
IR 58 40147 New Brentford 501 – 600

12, 14 CWY: owner: Fred Keevil of 27 Clifden Rd, Brentford; have small set back, 15' each frontage. 2 storey and attics; G Aldridge occupier no. 12, H. Boddy occupier no. 14 (I think these are the nos 112 and 113 on the tithe map)

Refs 368-372: 16, 18, 20, 22, 24 CWY: 5 stock brick built old cottages. Two storeys. 12' frontage. Poor class property and tenants. Valued at £120.

26, 28 CWY: two cottages with overlapping rooms; 2 storeys; 9' frontage. Owner: Mrs Georgina Field of 279 High Street Brentford. Occupiers Peter Byrne & Nash

Refs 377-380 were the sites of numbers 29, 30, 31 & 32 CWY, formerly 4 cottages but now demolished. Owner: Mrs Louisa Day, 17 Raleigh Gardens, Brixton Hill.

Ref 381: 34 CWY: cottage, owner as 377 for nos 34, 36, 38. Eleanor Barnes owned nos 40, 42, 44, 46. Seven stock brick built & tiled or slated old plain cottages. Narrow pavement in front, no front garden. Shallow depth. Ground floor: 2 rooms & WC; first floor: 2 rooms. Poor class of property and tenants. Let at varying rentals, 4/6 to 6/- per week. Say worth 5/6 each. Occupiers: 34: W E Picton; 36: occupier J (or T?) Smith; 38: Gardener; 40: Wilcocks; 42: James Weaver; 44: W Green; 46: T Knibbs. Valued at £100 each.

Ref 405: stable (brick built and tiled 6 stall old cart horse stable) east side CYW about 140' south of High Street, next to and south of no. 11 and now empty.

Ref 406: stable, occupier G Collier; 180' south of High Street.

Ref 407: workshop or stable, 24' frontage, 160' south of High Street, F Hidden occupier.

Ref 408: as 407

Ref 409: 11 CWY. House occupied by Russey, owner Alfred John Blades of 173 High Street Hounslow.

Refs 401-404: Numbers 27 (& 21, 23, 25) Catherine Wheel Yard were described as cottages occupied by E. Marriner & others, owned by John Frederick Padbury of 58 Albany Road Brentford. Freehold, sold about 1898 for £400 for all four, £30 spent since on drainage.

When the valuation took place on 22 April 1915 they were described as a 'terrace of four old cottages, two storey stock brick built with cemented fronts and tiled roofs, built up to the pathway.

Each contains on the ground floor 2 rooms; first floor 2 rooms. 2 WCs at rear each used by 2 tenants. One sink in common yard used by all. Gateway at side to common yard used by all. Fair condition only. 48' frontage. Valued at £400.

47 Catherine Wheel Yard: Brewery Tap

This building is converted from 2 similar cottages as 381 (34 CWY). Ground floor: 2 bars, kitchen scullery, parlour, washhouse and WC; First floor: 4 rooms.

In fair condition only. Owner: Fuller Smith & Turner, Griffin Brewery Chiswick. Purchased with 33 CWY freehold & leasehold. Sold January 27 1908. Properties valued at £1800.

1911 Kelly's Directory for Ealing, Acton etc

Catherine Wheel Yard

West side:

Frederick Keevil, shoeing forge

George Aldridge, 12 CWY

Richard Herbert Boddy, 14 CWY

William Green, shopkeeper, 44 CWY

William Bull, beer retailer, 48 CWY

East side:

Edward Jones, barge builder (Staffordshire Wharf)

George Dorey (The Meadows)

London Gazette Issue 33474 published on the 5 March 1929. Page 48 of 112

Short Description of Land.	Person to be Registered.
Land and cottage in Catherine Wheel Yard, New Brentford, Middlesex.	Adeline Maud Pope of 28, Mount Avenue, Ealing, W. 5.

London Gazette Issue 34263 published on the 10 March 1936. Page 57 of 96

NOTICE is hereby given that the- Partnership heretofore subsisting between us, the undersigned, George Wilson and David William Edgar Kyle, carrying on business as General Engineers, at Catherine Wheel Yard, Brentford, in the county of Middlesex, under the style or firm of WILSON AND KYLE, has been dissolved by mutual consent as from the 31st day of December, 1934. All debts due and owing to or by the late firm will be respectively received and paid by the said David William Edgar Kyle. The said business will be carried on in the future by the said David William Edgar Kyle solely, under the style of Wilson and Kyle. —As witness our hands this 25th day of February, 1936.

D. W. E. KYLE.
(101) GEO. WILSON.

London Gazette Issue 34315 published on the 18 August 1936. Page 13 of 64

H.M. LAND REGISTRY.

The following land is about to be registered. Objections (if any) should be addressed to "H.M. Registry, London, W.C.2," before the 1st day of September, 1936.

FREEHOLD

...16) Land in Catherine Wheel Yard, Brentford, Middlesex, by Palgrave Estates Ltd....

Families

1. Gearey

William Gearey was aged 25(to 29) and a brewer at the time of the **1841** census. George Playfair shared the property: he was the collector for the brewery.

In **1845** William Gearey married Sophia Norris.

In the **1844** Poor Rate 'Gearey' is recorded as occupier of two houses, a brewhouse, stable and sheds in Catherine Wheel Yard owned by 'Crook'.

William Gearey died in **1848** leaving his widow Sophia Gearey; she is recorded in the **1851** census living on Catherine Wheel Yard, a 30-year-old brewer employing 3 men.

In **1861** Charles Gearey, brother to William, had moved into the brewery house with his wife Jemima (nee Norris): they had married in 1859. He was a 'master brewer employing 4 men'.

By **1881** William Gomm had moved in to the Brewery, recorded at no. 18.
http://www.bhsproject.co.uk/families_gomm.shtml has more about the Gomm family.

In **1891** Edward Henderson, collector for the brewery, lived at 20 Catherine Wheel Yard: the Brewery. Next door was the Brewery Tap beerhouse.

2. Neville (Benham, Rutter)

In the **1844** Poor Rate Neville owned two cottages occupied by William Benham (labourer) and James Rutter (waterman). William Benham remained living in CWY until 1871, by which time he was 71. James Rutter is recorded in CWY up to 1861; Mary Ann Rutter, presumably his widow remained here in 1871 & 1881. More study required to determine whether the two families remained in the same properties throughout.

Joseph Onion Neville died in **1888** and left in his will (dated **1876**) his beerhouse (formerly two cottages) in the Catherine Wheel Yard to his daughter Augusta

Neville. (Alister Neville, descendant) http://www.bhsproject.co.uk/dynasty_neville.shtml read more about the Neville family.

3. Jones (Collier)

Edward Charles Jones (1859 – 1946) founded E C Jones & Son. In 1881 he was a journeyman barge builder living at 17 Catherine Wheel Yard. In 1883 he married Jemima Collier, daughter of George Charles Collier, who was recorded in 1861 – 1901 census at the Catherine Wheel PH.

'EC Jones & Son – Brentford Boatbuilder' by Pam Vernon-Roberts (Brentford & Chiswick Local History Journal, 2007). See <http://www.bhsproject.co.uk/jones.shtml> for more about the family.

Secondary Resources

a) 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>.

Maltings/ breweries:

'Most of New Brentford's malthouses were attached to inns, including one at Catherine Wheel Yard in **1679**'
and

'Jones family's coal, corn, and malting business, based on Catherine Wheel Yard until **1821**'

The Grand Junction brewery, Catherine Wheel Yard, New Brentford, was worked from 1826 by James Crooks, in **1845-8** by William Gearey, in 1853 by Sophia and Charles Gearey, and in 1862 and **1866** by George Gearey.

The buildings apparently were taken over by William Gomm, mentioned in 1843, whose Beehive brewery was in High Street in 1853 (but later in Catherine Wheel Yard. W. Gomm & Son advertised ten brews in **1893** and operated until **1900** or later. Their business had been acquired by Fuller, Smith & Turner by **1908**, when the Catherine Wheel Yard premises were for sale.

Turpentine Works

Alexander Corson, surgeon, leased a turpentine works, laboratory, and warehouse in Catherine Wheel Yard in **1792**. He had occupied the laboratory before 1791, when he was granted more land on the west of the Ham, and a counting house, mill house, and distillery stood on the site in 1792. On the failure of his soap making concern, the Ham premises were sold in 1797 and thereafter often changed hands. Turpentine was still made in 1813.

Soap Works

Employees of the Thames Soap Works opened the Brentford Soap Co. using the former Bee Hive Brewery building, in **1958**. 150 people worked there.

Starch Works

Dr. William Johnson's premises in Catherine Wheel Yard in **1791** included steam mill, coke house, starch house, and laboratory piggeries. The business may have existed in the 1770s and was much admired but proved unsuccessful, often changing hands. Described as Messrs. Burrell's starch manufactory in **1811**, it was not recorded after 1812.

http://www.bhsproject.co.uk/families_johnson.shtml research into Robert Wallace Johnson.

Importation of motor car accessories

Polco Products was founded in 1956 at Covent Garden (Westm.) to make or import motor car accessories, notably vacuum cleaners. The firm moved to the Brent works, Catherine Wheel Yard, in **1972** and had 37 staff in **1978**.

b) The National Archives Discovery Catalogue

Wiltshire Archives:

Reference: 529/62

Scope and Content

Lease of a malthouse in White Horse Yard, New Brentford, Middlesex.

Parties: Hawley, Downes.

Creation dates: **1723**

Reference: 529/63

Scope and Content

Articles on the marriage of George Downes of Isleworth, Middlesex and Mary Jacob of the Rocks in the parish of Marshfield, Glos. relating to money and personal property, a house and malthouse in Katharine Wheel Yard in New Brentford, and a copyhold tenement in Twickenham, Middlesex.

Parties: Downes, Jacob, Smith, Bernard.

Creation dates: **1735**

London Metropolitan Archives:

Reference: ACC/2162/4 [Copy] settlement (first page only) Creation dates: **2 May 1788**

Scope and Content

1. James Goding of Knightsbridge, cooper, and Susanna his wife

2. Thomas Padget of Wardour Street, Soho, distiller
 3. George Goding of Knightsbridge, cooper, son and heir of James Goding
 4. Thomas Goding of Knightsbridge, cooper, second son of James Goding
 5. James Goding the Younger of Knightsbridge, cooper, third son of James Goding
 6. William Gosling of Knightsbridge, merchant, son in law of James Goding
1. settles on 2. in trust for 3., 4., 5., and 6. five messuages called 1-5 Catherine Wheel Yard, New Brentford

Fuller Smith & Turner:

Documents relating to the Brewery Estate - ref. ACC/0891/02/06

Miscellaneous documents relating to the Brewery estates found loose

FILE - New Brentford: Agreement for sale - ref. ACC/0891/02/06/2196 - date: **9 Sep 1853**

[from Scope and Content] Property: Cottage in Catherine Wheel Yard, New Brentford

FILE - New Brentford: Notes on the title of Thomas Dancer to premises in Catherine Wheel Yard.
New Brentford - ref. ACC/0891/02/06/2198 - date: c.**1854**