

Draycott, Shepton Mallet: house numbers and names tabulated

Current number (Mendip DC)	1960s number	Name	Notes	Footnotes
1	1	Crown Inn		23
2 Crown Cottages	2 Crown Cottages			
3 Crown Cottages	3 Crown Cottages			
4 Crown Cottages	4 Crown Cottages			
5 Crown Cottages	5 Crown Cottages			
1 Draycott Court	1 Draycott Court		In the 1960s, this was the Crown's skittle alley	
2 Draycott Court	2 Draycott Court			
3 Draycott Court	3 Draycott Court			
3 Convent Cottages	3 Convent Cottages			1
4 Convent Cottages	4 Convent Cottages			1
			Back entrance to Cheese Factory	
		Carey End	These three houses were converted from the Cheese Factory (= cheese store) in the 1990s.	22
		Holly Tree House		22
		Carey House		22
		Churn House		22
		Whey House		22
5 Convent Cottages		Sandhurst		2
6 Convent Cottages	5			2
7 Convent Cottages	6			3
			Main entrance to Cheese Factory	4
	7		Mrs Woodward's House	5
		The Cloisters The Convent	Sales House south-east wing	6
		The Convent Masonic Lodge	Sales House north-east wing	7
	8	The Glen Sales House	Sales House house	8

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			Sales House west wing	8
9	9	The Priory		9
10	10	Vine Cottage		10
11	11			
12	12		ruins	11
13	13		ruins	11
15	15			
17	17			
1 Pembroke Cottages	1 Pembroke Cottages			12
2 Pembroke Cottages	2 Pembroke Cottages			12
4 Pembroke Cottages	4 Pembroke Cottages			12
3 Pembroke Cottages	3 Pembroke Cottages			12
		Stamford	Built in the 1980s	
		Meadowbank		
19	19			13
20	20			13
21	21			13
22	22			
23	23	Tudor Cottage		
24	24			
Everything beyond 24 was demolished in the 1960s.				
		Eiffel Cottages		14
			Beech House summerhouse	15
			Disused mill	16
	25	Beech House		17
	26	Draycott House		18
		Longbridge Silk Mill		20
	27		(1960: Miss Amor and her nephew)	19

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			(1960: gap (not a gap in 1886))	19
			(1960: Mr Amor's pet shop)	19
			(1960: Mr and Mrs Corbin)	19
		Monmouth House		21

Footnotes

1. Victorian semi-detached pair, built before 1879.
2. Late-Victorian pair between entrances to Cheese Factory. They were knocked together in the 1970s or early 80s to accommodate the Somerset Cattle Breeding Centre. The AI cars, initially all yellow apart from one red one, used to gather every Thursday morning. The flasks of liquid nitrogen would sometimes produce low flowing white trails as the nitrogen boiled. These flasks contained the straws of semen to be taken to the cows.
3. The former Cheese Factory Offices.
4. Cheese Factory: used to have a big wooden gate (two gates, L&R, similar to The Priory gates, but two equal halves, & I'm not 100% sure of the arrangement of planking) in a freestone arch in a high wall. The big gate had a smaller, pedestrian, gate in one of the gates. The brass plate on the left hand gate said "Wm Cary / Cheesefactor / and at Shepton Mallet". After the arch had been demolished, to let larger lorries in, the brass plate was in a window in No. 6 (2011 numbering) facing the road. On 1886 1:500 OS map: "Storehouses".
5. Shown as "7" on 1:500 Somerset CC map of 1980s. Mrs Woodward was taken away during the flood of 10 July 1968. She died soon afterwards.
6. Sales House south-east wing, known as "The Cloisters" when a friend lived there as a girl in the 1920s or 30s. On 1886 1:500 OS map: part of "The Convent".
7. This was used as the Masonic Hall during much of the 20th century. On 1886 1:500 OS map: part of "The Convent".
8. Sales House house and west wing. On the 1879 Sewer Map labelled "The Glen". On 1886 1:500 OS map: "Sale's House".
9. On 1886 1:500 OS map: "The Priory".

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10. On 1886 1:500 OS map: "Vine Cottage".
11. In ruins ?since a fire in 1905.
12. Pembroke Cottages (numbered 1, 2, 4, 3, in that order, with 1 being by Pike Hill. No. 1 is "Pembroke Cottage" (singular) on 1886 1:500 OS map.
13. This looks as if it may be a converted mill. Evidence needed. There is a culvert which occasionally tips water into The River north of this building.
14. Eiffel Cottages: four-storey mill building. On 1886 1:500 OS map: "Silk Factory (Disused)". In the early 1960s there were some flats or maisonettes in this building.
15. Beech House summerhouse. This was at the end of the terraced garden, which was held up by a wall along the road (not as tall as the one opposite it, and much shorter than the 1960s one there now).
16. Mill behind Priory, in garden of Beech House. On 1886 1:500 OS map: shown, but not labelled.
17. Beech House. On 1886 1:500 OS map: "Beech House".
18. Draycott House. On 1886 1:500 OS map: "Draycott House"
BH & DH, if my memory is correct, had, according to my father, decorative plaster Tudor ceilings. As with Old Bowlsh House, they were Tudor buildings with Georgian fronts.
19. Row of cottages. On 1886 1:500 OS map: "Brush Factory". NB it does not say "disused". This site remained vacant for over twenty years after demolition.
20. The five-storey Longbridge Silk Mill: On 1886 1:500 OS map: "Longbridge Silk Factory (Disused)". In the dreadful destruction to raze the area in the 1960s, they said it was dangerous and had to be demolished. The wire ropes snapped, so they resorted to dynamite and blew up this 'dangerous' building .
21. Monmouth House. On 1886 1:500 OS map: "Monmouth House".
This site remained vacant for over twenty years after demolition.
The Royal Commission on Historical Monuments included Monmouth House in its list *Monuments Threatened or Destroyed* (London: HMSO 1963 p57). It said: "Of stone, two storeys. Built in early 17th century on L-shaped plan, with gallery occupying whole front of first floor of main range; symmetrical side elevation with two gables and central two-storey bay-window; front stuccoed and perhaps remodelled later."
22. These house names are for houses in the converted cheese store. It is interesting to note that two of the new houses are apparently named after the former Archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey - with an e. The Cheese Factory - and a vast amount of Draycott - had been owned by the Cary family - no e - for over a 100 years. James and Joseph owned lots of Draycott in 1841 (see the SM tithe map, SCRO). William Cary lived in The Priory in the late 1800s. Wm Cary was the name on the brass plate on the gates to the Cheese Factory.

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23. Prior to Shepton gaining street numbers, the eastern end of modern Draycott was included in Longbridge - the long bridge being the culvert that starts in Lower Lane (before Waterloo Road was thought of), goes under the Crown and Crown Cottages, and ended at the end of Crown Cottages. In pre-street-numbering lists, The Crown is given as Longbridge, not Draycott (for example, Pigot's Directory of 1844). This is quite logical, as the long bridge runs under its northern part. Similarly, the name "Longbridge Silk Factory" is given on the 1886 1:500 OS map.

This might suggest that, pre-street-numbering, Draycott started somewhere around the Cheese Factory. It always seems to have included Sales House, and to continue as far as the meadows.

On the 1790 Duchy map, Draycott is shown as a distinct area in the same lettering as Bowlish and Downside. The name "Draycot", with one "t", extends from the area of Vine Cottage to the end of what is now the garden of 21 Draycott. It could be interpreted to include part of the first meadow, at least as far north as the footpath which runs from Draycott to Bowlish.

The pair of semi-detached houses that were in the first (eastern) meadow at the end of the 1800s were "Bowlish Meadows", not "Draycott" (1881 Census). This is after house-numbering was introduced to Shepton.

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