Craven Dunnill Tile Works, Jackfield– Key dates and People

Built on the site of Ash Tree Pottery – Pot Works

1728

Morris Thursfield's Pottery.

1780

New-built pottery used for Cream-colour and white stonewares. In lease for 90 years of which 10 of which are expired. Upon banks of Severn. Apply William Evans of Broseley or John Thursfield of Benthall.[1]
Rose is said to have set up a porcelain factory here before moving to Coalport.[2]

1796

To be sold at Jackfield. Tools & utensils, stock in trade, mill work and other appendages to a China Work. For particulars apply to Mr Boden of Broseley aforesaid who has no objection to retain a share therein.

1823

Adam Yates Pottery to be sold or let. Two kilns fitted for biscuit and glazed work – trade fully established in the sale of fine cane-coloured ware, fireproof. [3]

1834

Marriage John Myatt earthenware manufacturer to Susannah, younger daughter of Mr Adam Yates of Jackfield. [4]

1835

William son of John Myatt (manufacturer, Jackfield) and Susannah baptised January and buried six months later. John Myatt listed as a potter in Pigot's directory

1838

Broseley Tithe Map – John Myatt & William Yates.
Myatt & Yates – partnership dissolved.

1841

Census: Adam Yates (70) barge owner. Myatt is not listed.

1846

House, Potworks, buildings & yards in occupation of William Exley & Adam Yates.[5]

1851

Census: Robert Yates (40) of Ash Tree pub Victualler & Waterman. George Proudman (next to school house) Earthenware manufacturer employing 24Bagshaw directory. George Proudman earthenware manufacturing. Ivanhoe Pottery.

1852

Pottery Works, yards buildings & road. Leased to Robert Yates and George Proudman and in occupation of George Proudman (Born in Measham in 1841 George Proudman was a Pot maker at Withington, Leicestershire).[6]

1857

To be sold Potworks, kilns, and hovels in occupation of George Wootton. Bed of clay adjacent to premises. Apply to proprietor Mr Robert Yates.[7]

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[1] Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28th August 1780
[2] Potteries Examiner 16th September 1876
[3] Aris's Birmingham Gazette 10th February 1823.
[4] Wolverhampton Chronicle 5th February 1834
[5] Shropshire Union Railways Plan Shropshire Archives DP341
[6] SVR Plan Shropshire Archives DP349
[7] Wellington Journal 21st February 1857

Craven Dunnill Tile Works, Jackfield– Key dates and People

1860

To be let old established Pottery with dwelling house, workshops, warehouses, kilns, yards stables & other appurtenances. On the banks of Severn and adjoin the Severn Valley Railway and are surrounded by beds of clay of the best quality. Apply Potts & Gordon Solicitors.[8]

1862

August: The partnership between Willaim Weaver and Thomas Hassell of Jackfield Pottery dissolved by mutual consent. All monies owing to go to Thomas Hassell. Witness John Hammersley, Jackfield. John Donkin, Longton.
August: Jackfield Pottery Broseley. Hassell and Son can supply Rockingham & Cane coloured. Hassell and Son's motto is "Quick sale and quick returns" Terms cash. NB Weaver has retired from the partnership.[9]
October, November: References to Hassel not paying wages suggest that the works were in financial trouble.[10]

1863

Post Office Directory. Thomas Hassall, earthenware manufacturer.

Encaustic tile works.

1854

Richard Haworth and Co. was founded in c.1854. Richard Haworth, with Frederick Copley Hulton and James Craven, worked in partnership to begin trading as yarn and cloth commission agents in Cannon Street, Manchester. The partners then established a small weaving shed on Mount Street until, following a growth in demand, they expanded into spinning and leased a large mill at Broughton Bridge.[11]

1861

Hargreaves & Craven Stone Merchants in Manchester.

1863 – Hawes Denny & Hargreaves

The first reference is in December when the pottery had recently been taken over by Hawes, Denny and Hargreaves for the manufacture of Encaustic tiles. [12]
In 1867 the fourth annual treat implies it was set up in June 1863.

1864

The partnership of **J Hargreaves,** G. H Newton, **J Craven** and **F C Hulton** Alrewas, plaster of Paris manufacturers was dissolved.[13]
Willaim Owen sinking a pit for Messrs. Hawes & Denny[14]
Works treat with Denny presiding. Three cheers for Mr Hawes, Mr Denny & Mr Hargreaves, Mrs Denny & other ladies.[15]

1865

21 Nov 1st Advert for tiles at Hargreaves & Craven, Junction Wharf Ducie Street, Piccadilly, Manchester for Encaustic tile pavements, Enamelled and White wall tilings. This seems to be their main officed see 1868.

1866 – Denny, Hargreaves, Craven, Hulton

Hawes leaves the partnership. J. B Hawes, J D. Denny, **J Hargreaves, J Craven F.C. Hulton**

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[8] Wolverhampton Chronicle 21st March 1860.
[9] Wellington Journal. 30th August 1862
[10] Wellington Journal 18th October 1862, 15th November 1862
[11] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Haworth_Ltd
[12] Shrewsbury Chronicle 4th December 1863
[13] Liverpool Mercury 29/12/1864
[14] Eddowes Shrewsbury Journal 21st September 1884
[15] Eddowes Shrewsbury Journal 31st August 1864

Annual dinner mentions Denny, Hargreaves & Craven.[16]

1867 - Hargreaves, Craven, Hulton

Calcutts Encaustic tile works of Denny Hargreaves & Co – the fourth annual treat to employees – an anniversary previously in field adjoining works but this time in the large glazing room.
Denny occupied the chair and Morris the vice-chair.
No lack of orders and a wage bill of £1,500 per annum.
Evening Mrs Denny gave tea to the wives.
Denny leaves partnership J.D. Denny, **J Hargreaves, J Craven & F. C Hulton**.
Advert for tile Hargreaves & Craven, Junction Wharf Ducie Street Manchester

1868

An assistant manager wanted for a small geometric & encaustic tile manufactory. Apply Hargreaves & Craven, Junction Wharf Ducie Street.[17] See 1869

1869

A lad called George Edge died in a clay pit adjoining the Calcutts Encaustic tile works. He was messing around with the skip and fell down the 35-yard-deep shaft.[18]
Wanted a first-class hollow ware presser - apply to Hargreaves & Craven, Jackfield Tile Works.[19]
Designs for Hargreaves & Craven tiles by George Goldie of Kensington Square.[20]

1870

17th Nov Portland Cement for Bradford supplies to Hargreaves & Craven at Dulcie Wharf
Alexander H Brown – junior member (MP) for Borough of Wenlock in connection with friend J P G Smith of Liverpool and Mr F C Hutton of Manchester have consented to join Hargreaves & Craven on condition that the men (no mention of women) employed in those branches of manufacture be permitted to participate in the profits. Works to be taken down and entirely rebuilt.

1871 - Hargreaves, Craven, Dunnill & Co.

A new lease was obtained for 60 years and some £10,000 was to be expended on works and machinery.
Profit sharing starts after 10% is paid in dividends.
Treat at Mr Smiths at Swinney Cliff
Partnership dissolved. **J Hargreaves, J Craven and F C Hulton** Manchester, Stone Merchants[21]
18th Mar – Hargreaves & Craven stone and flag merchants Dulcie St.
15th May – Hargreaves Craven Dunnill & Co.
7th Nov – James Hargreaves, James Craven, Frederick C Hulton stone merchants' partnerships dissolved.

1872 - Craven, Dunnill, and Company Limited.

Capital £14,000, in 28 shares of £500. — This company will carry on business as a manufacturer of encaustic, geometric, and other tiles at Jackfield, Salop. The subscribers are:
A. H. Brown, M.P., Richmond-hill, near Liverpool, 12 shares,
J. P. Smith, Sweyney Cliff, near Coalport, Salop 4 shares.
James Craven, Manchester, 1 share,
F.C. Hulton, Salford, 5 shares.
H. P. Dunnill, Jackfield, 4 shares.
S. B. Brown, Richmond-hill, near Liverpool, 1 share.
M. Rawdon, Edge-lane, Liverpool, 1 share.

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[16] Bridgnorth Journal 28th July 1866.
[17] Staffordshire Advertiser 18th April 1868
[18] Wellington Journal 13th February 1869
[19] Staffordshire Advertiser 29th May 1869
[20] Kensington News 2nd October 1869. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Goldie_(architect)
[21] Morning Advertiser 11/11/1871

Craven Dunnill Tile Works, Jackfield– Key dates and People

1873

Tiles made of Broseley clays. Agents W Harrison & Son, London, T. Thomason, Manchester & Birmingham, W Goodall, Liverpool, George Swift Leeds.

1874

July Lithographic printer wanted – Craven Dunnill & Co.[22]

JACKFIELD ENCAUSTIC TILE WORKS. (The Architect)

ENCAUSTIC TILES have been made in Jackfield for a number of years, but since the old works came into the possession of the present firm of Messrs. Craven, Dunnill & Co., great changes have taken place. The firm took a lease of about four acres of ground, and adjoining the old works built a large and commodious manufactory, which has been in operation for nearly two years. They have since taken down all the buildings of the old works and have erected on their site and joining up to their new works large new warehouses, showroom, offices, and entrance lodge. The plan of the works is very complete, so as in every way to economise in the process of manufacture, and they are now, probably, one of the most complete works of the kind.

The buildings consist of four blocks, one detached and the others connected, each block accommodating a separate branch of the manufacture.

In the detached block the raw materials are reduced to a state ready for the hands of the workmen. This building comprises the boiler-house, engine-house, pan-rooms, blunging-rooms, slip kilns and dust mills, together with stores for the various coloured clays as they leave the slip kilns ready for grinding.

The second block accommodates the work-people in the raw material, and the stores for the various clays and dust, as prepared for their use, and contains the damping places, where the clays are kept in a certain degree of moisture; pressers' shops for the various colours of geometric tiles, and the encaustic tile makers' shops, with their stoves.

The next block provides for the drying and firing of the goods and decorating shops, and comprises the "drying-house," where tiles made from dust are partially dried; the "seggar-house," where goods are prepared for and received out of the "ovens;" and the "ovens" where the goods are "fired" or baked, and also the glazing and enamelling kilns.

On the first floor are workshops employed for painting, enamelling, or other decorative purposes.

The fourth block provides for the sorting and stocking of goods and for packing them for despatch; also the offices and showroom. It contains the sorting-house, best and second warehouses, showroom, offices for principals. and clerks, packing house, straw store, lodge, staircase, main entrance, lodgekeepers dwelling. &c. This part of the building is fitted with water-closets and lavatories, and there are separate earth-closets provided for male and female workpeople.

Near to the detached block first described a small gas-works has been erected, which supplies the whole of the buildings.

The encaustic makers' stoves, the drying-house, warehouses, and offices are heated by steam pipes from the engine-boiler.

There is a complete system of deep and surface-drains, and the yards and open spaces are well paved. Every part of the building has been carefully arranged, so as to meet the special purposes for which it is employed, and the connection of the several parts have been so adjusted as to economise labour to the utmost. Ample provision for the admission of light and air has been carefully studied, together with ease of supervision and management by the heads of departments.

All the workrooms are large, lofty, and well ventilated. The encaustic tile makers' room is 87 feet long by 25 feet wide, and the upper room of the warehouse block is 83 feet long by 36 feet wide, the roof being supported by massive, polished principals.

In the exterior design extravagance of detail has been avoided, as not appropriate to the purposes of the building; but, by a judicious use of local materials of good quality, and by a natural treatment of

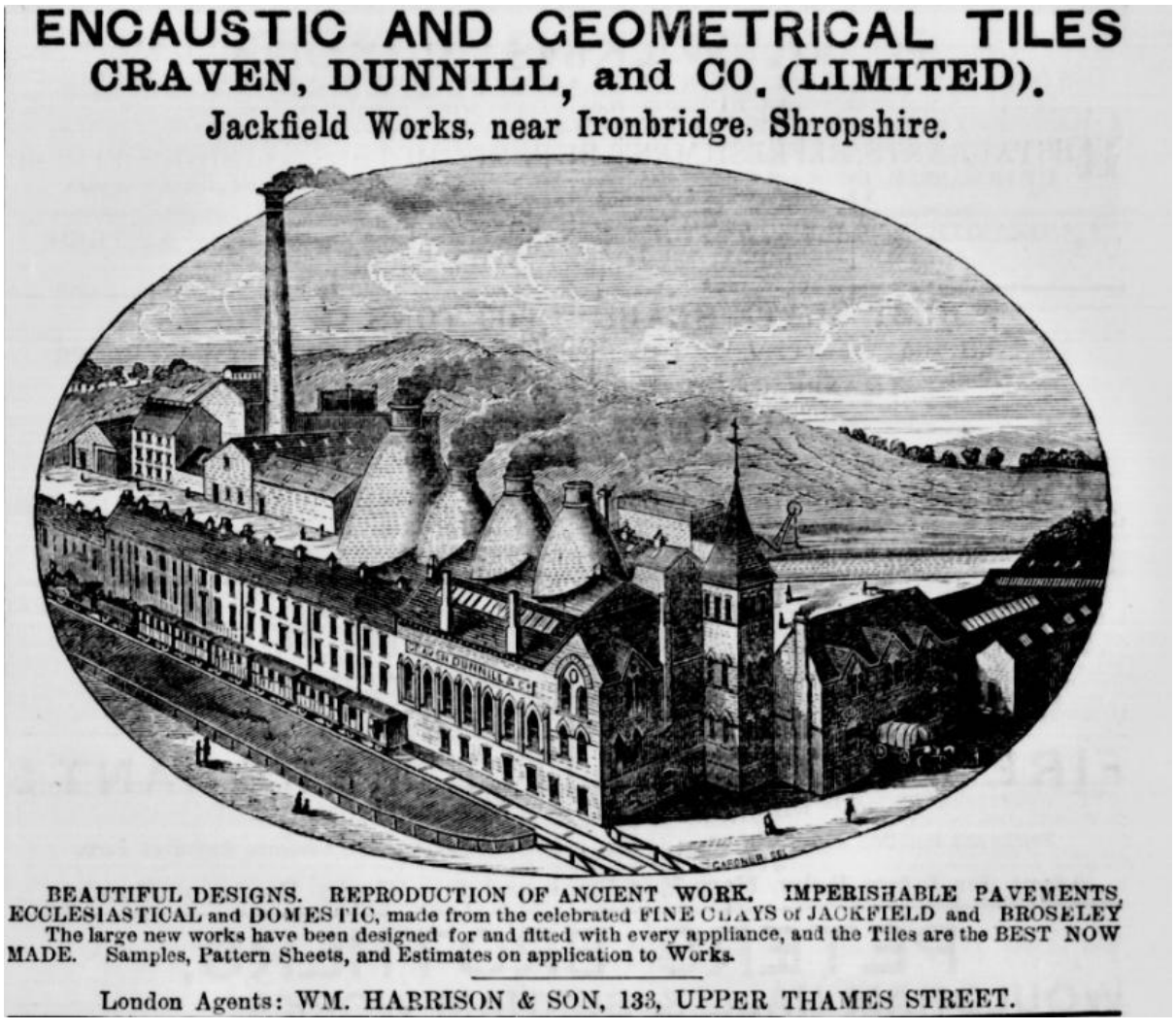
[22] Birmingham Daily Post 4th July 1878

Craven Dunnill Tile Works, Jackfield– Key dates and People

the many requirements of the promises, varying from perfect plainness in the mill and workshops to a freer handling in the warehouses, showroom, and principal entrance, a certain amount of architectural character has been attained which does not always accompany ordinary manufacturing buildings, but which, in this case, may be said rather to enhance the picturesque effects of the banks of the Severn, on which the premises are situated.

The general contractor was Mr. W. Exley, of Broseley, Mr. Bailey, of Ironbridge, sub-contracting under him for the joiners' work; Mr. Boulton, of Burslem, supplied the engineers' work, Mr. Price has acted as clerk of works, and Mr. Lynam, of Stoke-upon-Trent, was the architect.

The clays of Shropshire were turned to account by the Romans, and the relics dug up at Urconium, near the foot of the Wrekin, of tessellated tiles, made from red clay, were in all probability made from clays similar to those now worked at Jackfield. From a period so early as 1453 it would seem that the valley of the Severn was famous for ornamental tiles, for many specimens bearing that date have been found in cathedrals and churches. Jacquemart, in his " History of Ceramic Art," says that Jackfield is the most ancient site of pottery in Shropshire, and that there exists a specimen of its brown pottery dated 1634. It is also said that names of persons from Jackfield are entered in the parish registers of Stoke-upon-Trent who are supposed to have been potters as early as 1660, and the site of that old pottery was on the ground which is now occupied by the Jackfield Encaustic Tile Works. The clays of Jackfield are specially adapted for geometrical and encaustic tiles, and the red clay under the present works is probably the finest in the world.



Craven Dunnill Tile Works, Jackfield– Key dates and People

Investors and associated people.

John Brazier Hawes 1816- . A Draughtsman and Traveller

1816 Born 29th December to Richard Brasier Hawes & Elizabeth.
1817 2nd Feb. Baptised at Southwark Wesleyan Chapel, Bermondsey.
1820 Father at Walworth, carpenter, and timber dealer, bankrupt.
1830 Father, Richard Brazier Hawes & Charles Smith, Horsley Street, Walworth Bankrupt.
1836 Father, Richard Brazier Hawes was admitted to the company of Carpenters in London.
1839 Marriage to Emma Clarke, St George Southwark district.
1840 Electoral register – House on Walworth Common.
1840 Birth of daughter Elizabeth.
1841 Newington, Lambeth, occupation: Builder.
1842 Birth of daughter Emma Beatrice.
1843 Death of daughter Elizabeth.
1844 4th September Birth of son John Brazier Jr.
1845 Death of his father Richard.
1847 Electoral register – House on Walworth Common.
Birth of daughter Anne Walsham Hawes.
1851 Living at Camberwell, Lambeth: John B, Carpenter. Emma 31, Emma B. 8 John B. 6, Ann 4.
1852 Partnership dissolved - William Buckland & John Brasier Hawes, Walworth-place, Walworth. Land and house agents, surveyors, valuers & appraisers.
1857 License for the Crown (pub) Walworth Place - application withdrawn.
1861 Census: Madeley, occupation Draftsman, Emma 41, Emma B, 18, Ann 14.
1862 Daughter Emma married James Davy **Denny** at Ironbridge. His occupation Draughtsman.
1863 **Hawes Denny & Hargreaves**. – set up the works?
1864 Willaim Owen sinking a pit for Messrs. Hawes & Denny (Eddowes 21/09/1864)
1866 **John Brazier Hawes retires from partnership with James Davey Denny, James Hargreaves, James Craven, and Frederick Copley Hulton** geometric and encaustic tile manufacturers Jackfield-works, Broseley 25th June (London Gazette 7th July 1866)
1871 Census: Family at Madeley Road, Madeley. Emma 51, Emma B. Denny (married) 28, James Denny (son-in-law) 36 a Draftsman.
John Brasier Snr. - Commercial Traveller lodging in Bridewell, London at Angus's Hotel.
1873 Commercial Traveller (Marriage of JB Jnr.)
1878 Mr Hawes of Ironbridqe purchased the Old Workhouse buildings from the trustees of the Beddoes and Brooks Charity.
1879 Death of daughter Anne Washam Hawes of Tontine Bank, Ironbridge – left £300. Lay helper at Madeley Wood Wesleyan Chapel.
Wife Emma took over the shop.
Advertised cottages at Brockholes as to let. (Old Workhouse?)
1880 Wife running Fancy repository (Anne's shop) in Ironbridge - also, a Bookseller, stationer and dye-works agent.
June. JBH snr bankrupt. Commercial traveller & administrator to daughter Anne**.**
July. Stock and furniture at the shop are to be sold by tender.
October 1st dividend 1s 6d in the pound.
1881 Census: John Brazier Hawes 64, Town Traveller (Tiles). Boarding at 29 Windmill Street St Pancras.
Wife Emma living with son-in-law James D. Denny at Church Gresley.
1889 Wife Emma died at Dennys' house on 18th October 1889.
1891 There is only one John B Hawes in the 1891 census (Born 1817) but he is listed as (paralytic) from the Isle of Wight. No death can be found.

Craven Dunnill Tile Works, Jackfield– Key dates and People

John Brasier Hawes Jnr. 1844-1909 – Maws Agent in Chicago

1844 Born in London district St Mary Stoke Newington

1860 Bible prize winner of Coalbrookdale Company's school. £1 prize 5th in the list

1861 Census: At Christchurch, Southwark, 42 Stamford Street, John Brazier Jnr. 16, Booksellers assistant boarding at the house of John Marriott a printer's messenger.

1871 Census: 6 Edward St, Newington, Lambeth, Lodger, Encaustic tile merchant.

1873 Married Mary Griffiths (26), daughter of John Griffitsh of Lincoln Hill, at Ironbridge. Occupation: Commercial Traveller, residence, Ironbridge.

1877 House on Lincoln Hill occupied as tenant by J. B. Jnr is for sale.

1881 Census: At Madeley, Old Turn Pike Road, The Ivies. (nr Lincoln Hill) Commercial Traveller Encaustic tiles.

1890 Arrives in New York.

1897 Probable date of setting up Hawes & Dodd Chicago agents for Maws tiles by J B Jnr.[23]

Arrives at Liverpool. John B Hawes, merchant.

1909 Died 27th April 1909 in Chicago

Probate 4848 Calumet Avenue, Chicago. Died 27 April in Room 60 of the Galily Buildings 24 E Adams Street Chicago. Probate at London 27th August to Sidney Raymond Maw, tile manufacturer the attorney of Mary Hawes widow. £578 162 7d.

The death is announced-of Mr. John B. Hawes of the firm Hawes and Dodd, Adam's Street, Chicago, and Calumet Avenue, Chicago. He died suddenly in his office. The late Mr. Hawes was born in Ironbridge district in 1850, and at an early age entered the service of Messrs. Maw and Company, Ltd., Jackfield, and represented the firm as a traveller in England for some years. He was eventually appointed the firm's representative for the Northern Continent of America. In 1896 he moved to Chicago, where in conjunction with Mr. John M. Dodd, who was also connected with Maw and Ca., Ltd., he founded the firm of Hawes anti Dodd, dealers in tiles and ceramic mosaics. (Bridgnorth Journal22 May 1909)

James Davy Denny 1828-1912. A Draughtsman & Architect

1828 Sister Lavinia baptised at Fressingfield, Suffolk.

1830 Sister Charlotte baptised at Fressingfield, Suffolk.

1832 Brother Charles baptised at Fressingfield, Suffolk.

1834 On 24th Oct James Denny was baptised at Fressingfield. Father - Charles, Mother - Mary. In the Census he lists himself as being born at Harleston, Norfolk which is four miles north of Fressingfield. Father Charles was a brewer.

1837 At Newington, Surrey – birth of brother Charles Thomas.

1841 Census, at Newington, Surrey, Father Charles was a Labourer.

1849 Marriage of sister Lavinia at Stoke Newington. Her father Charles was a brewer. At 7 Country Terrace Street. Father's death in December at the age of 47 at County Terrace, New Kent Road.

1851 Census, at 7. County Street, (St Mary) Newington (his mother was a widow) James was an Architects' office boy.

1858 Marriage of James Davy Denny of London to Annie Rees, eldest daughter of Mr Henry Rees, at Llantrisant.

1859 Death of Annie (31) at Llangibby Castle, Monmouthshire – wife of J. D. Denny of Ironbridge.

1861 Salop Road (between Wharfage and Bridge Street Ironbridge) Madeley, Draughtsman & Designer lodging with Sarah Fairbanks a grocer.

[23] Chicago Tribune 28 April 1909.

Craven Dunnill Tile Works, Jackfield– Key dates and People

1862 On 9th Sept he married **Emma Beatrice Hawes** at Madeley – He was a widower with occupation as a draughtsman.

1867 30th Aug Leaves partnership: James Davey Denny**, James Hargreaves, James Craven and Frederick Copley Hulton**

1868 Church Warden at Jackfield (WJ 01/02/68)

1871 Madeley Road, Madeley. They were living with their parents in Law (Hawes) with his wife and listed as a Draughtsman.

1876 Architect - formerly a Student at Govt School of design Somerset House & for many years with architect Sir M Digby Wyatt in London. The Cottage Hastings Road, Swadlincote.

1877 Swadlincote - Building land for sale – Plans of lots apply to Denny Architect.

1878 Ashby-de-la-Zouch - Secretary (School board?) James D Denny, Church Gresley Hon Sec. Art class prizes.

1881 Church Gresley (46) Architect & Surveyor. Applied to be Clerk to Local board. Got to the last 3 but did not receive any votes perhaps as he wanted a salary of £15 per year whereas the selected candidate wanted £12.

1882 Running roofing tile department at J. C. Edwards Brickworks, Ruabon. (Frederick Charles Howells went to work here in 1887). Edwards also produced wall and floor tiles including Encasutic from at least 1881.[24]

1885 Patent Invention - double lock and key locks for fireproof ventilating ceilings. Of Newbridge Road, Ruabon.

1886 Of Llangollen Improvements in Terracotta and appliances for making the same.

1887 Manager of Pant Works of Henry Dennis.[25] Rhos works at Pant (taken over by Dennis in 1886) (http://industrialgwent.co.uk/g61-northwales/index.htm)

1889 Patent for manufacturing of facing bricks & tiles.

1891 Meadow Cottage, Llangollen. – Architect
Member of English Wesleyan Chapel.

1894 Involved in erecting offices &c for Town Schools. Regent Street, Llangollen

1899 Plans submitted to the council by Denny for buildings.

1901 Meadow Cottage, Regent Street, Llangollen. Architect.

1908 Declared bankrupt. Liabilities of £131 16s 3d – deficiency of £98 14s. Started business with a capital of £20. Went to Llangollen about 20 years ago. First employed by Mr J. C. Edwards as a brick & tile manager subsequently to Mr Dennis's works and earned £150 a year as manager. Afterwards started for himself. In 1890 lost £200 on promoting two patents, facing bricks and side pressure die. Done nothing for 12 months.

1911 22 West Side, Llangollen (born Harleston Norfolk), retired architect. The couple were at the same house as Jane Jones and her 2 children possibly as lodgers.

1912 Died on 20th Nov. buried at Llangollen. (According to the Burial Laws Amendment Act. This allows funerals in churchyards and parish burial grounds to be conducted without the rites of the Church of England.)

James Hargreaves – Stone Merchant & Investor

No obvious link to A Hargreaves Brown

1824 Born in Halifax. Possible baptism 6th June.

1830 Wife Hannah Hawley was baptised on 26 Mar 1830 in Chesterfield. Parents John & Betty Hawley.

1841 Hawley family living at Ruby Street, Hulme, Chorlton. Hargreaves not found.

1851 Q1 James Hargreaves married Hannah Hawley at Chorlton-cum-Hardey district, Lancashire. Not found in the 1851 census

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[24] Cheshire Observer 24th Sept 1881.

[25] Wrexham Advertiser 16th July 1887 – Marriage of Miss Dennis

Craven Dunnill Tile Works, Jackfield– Key dates and People

1853 No one called James Hargreaves with a connection to stone or building is listed in the Manchester Directory – However, Craven is listed as a stone merchant.

1854 14 Aug - First child Martha born in Manchester. No record of baptism.

1855 Harriet was born on 7th February at Chorlton.

1856 August. Hargreaves & Farrow. The partnership between James Hargreaves & Charles Farrow Flag & Stone merchants dissolved – debts to Charles Farrow.
December Craven was listed as a stone merchant at Moss Side.

1858 First Advert for Hargreaves & Craven Junction Wharf Stone Merchants.

1861 55 Percival Road, Chorlton on Medlock, Manchester Stone & Lime Merchant.

1863 Calcutts Works – **Hawes, Denny & Hargreaves**. Denny & Hawes were local so how did Hargreaves get involved? He was probably the financial backer.

1864 Partnership dissolved **J Hargreaves,** G. H Newton, **J Craven** and **F C Hulton** Alrewas, plaster of Paris manufacturers [26]

1865 Advert for Geometrical mosaic, Venetian and encaustic tile pavements. Hargreaves & Craven

1866 Hawes leaves partnership of John B Hawes, James Craven, James Davy Denny, Fred. C Hulton, **James Hargreaves.**

1868 Hannah Born 17 November.

1870 Son Harry was born in Manchester.

1871 Albers Lane Cheadle, Merchant Stone & Cement &c.
Partnership dissolved. **J Hargreaves, J Craven and F C Hulton** Manchester, Stone Merchants[27]

1872 Not one of the investors in Tileworks limited company.

1887 A Mr J. Hargreaves attended the burial of James Craven (Man Courier 26/08)

1890 Bridge House, Cheadle Hulme – freehold house & land.

1891 33 Lady Bridge Road, Cheadle – merchant Tobacco Agent.

1894 Death Notice – at his residence Birch Lane, Longsight, James Hargreaves (Hargreaves & Craven stone merchants) in his 71st year (late of Cheadle Hulme) – Funeral Southern Cemetery. (Chorlton-cum-hardy plot CNon Conformist 1302)
Probate 98, Birch Lane, Longsight, Manchester, tobacconist, stone merchant died 4/02/1894. Probate to Fred Hargreaves salesman £1,217 15s 5d. (income value £1,062,000) – but somehow he seems to have been insolvent – see 1895

1895 FAILURE OF A LOCAL TOBACCONIST. (Manchester Courier 18th May 1895)
At the Manchester Bankruptcy Court, yesterday, before Mr. Registrar Atkinson, Mr. C. J. Dibb, the Official Receiver, conducted the examination in the matter of Hannah Hargreaves and John Hargreaves, who had traded as James Hargreaves, at 73, London-road, and Pollard-street, Manchester, as tobacconists. In reply to Mr. Dibb, John Hargreaves said his father died in February, 1894. He was insolvent, and the estate which was administered in Chancery, only paid 7s. 2d. in the pound. In April, 1894, debtor and his mother purchased a tobacconist's business in London-road, paying £260 for the stock and fixtures. His mother had taken no part in the business beyond giving her name, and he had practically carried it on. The money to go into the shop was borrowed from the late Mr. Jonas Craven, who altogether lent him £375. In addition debtor and his mother each put £50 into the business. In addition to the tobacco business he had been selling bricks and stone. His statement of affairs showed liabilities of £978, and estimated assets of £202, but the latter would probably realise £300. He discovered he was insolvent in February last, when an accountant went through his books. The causes of his failure were very small profits, large expenses, and want of capital. Had he had more capital he could have bought cheaper.-The Official Receiver said he always understood that a tobacconist's business was a very good one.-Debtor said he had been in the

[26] Liverpool Mercury 29/12/1864
[27] Morning Advertiser 11/11/1871

wholesale business. Had he been a retailer he would not now have been in the bankruptcy court. He did not think the gross profits in the wholesale trade were more than 2½ per cent. He had carried on business since he became insolvent with the consent of his principal creditors. He had not contracted additional debts with a knowledge of his insolvency, and he had not taken anything out of the business for maintenance. The late Mr. Craven was a friend of the family. and in that capacity lent the money.-The examination was adjourned to allow the debtor to prepare certain accounts.

1901 Hannah Snr, Hannah Jnr. & Harriet had moved to Evesham.
1904 Frederick died at Parkside Lunatic Asylum (also isolation hospital) on 10th June. Left £140 to his widow. He is buried at All Saints, Cheadle Hulme.
1917 Hannah Snr was buried on 10th May 1917 (Chorlton-cum-hardy plot CNon Conformist 1302)
1941 Harriet died at Evesham.
Martha died - buried on 29th Nov 1941 (Chorlton-cum-hardy plot CNon Conformist 1302)
1934 Harry Hargreaves buried on 10th May (Chorlton-cum-hardy plot CNon Conformist 1302)
1943 Hannah Jnr death at Evesham.
1955 Adeline Hargreaves buried 22nd Jun 1955 (Chorlton-cum-hardy plot CNon Conformist 1302)

James Craven – Stone Merchant & Investor

Alderman Manchester City Council

1817 Born 10 Jan in Colne his father Thomas was a Mason, Baptised 9 Feb. living at Carry Bridge, Colne.
1839 Married Sarah Welcher on 9th June at Doddington Cambridge (her birthplace). They were both living in the parish. Sarah's father was a farmer of 50 acres.
1840 Baptism of son John at Roundhay, Leeds. Occupation mason.
1841 James, Sarah & son John living at Roundhay. Listed as Ag Lab??
1845 Birth of daughter Sarah. Baptism at Holy Trinity, Hulme. Occupation Mason at New Street.
1847 Birth of daughter Mary Ann. Baptism at Holy Trinity, Hulme. Occupation Mason at Alderley Steet.
1850 Birth of son Thomas. Baptism at Holy Trinity, Hulme. Occupation Stone Mason at 169 Warde Street.
1851 Census: Moss Lane, Moss Side, Manchester - Stone Mason employing 10 men.
1852 Birth of son Jonas. Baptism at Holy Trinity Hulme. Occupation Stone Mason at Moss Side.
1853 Listed as a stone merchant in the Manchester Directory.
1855 Chorlton Union Guardians – James Craven. Moss Side, Mason.
1856 Stone Merchant, Moss Side.
1861 Census: Withington Road, Moss Side. Stone Merchant.
1862 Queens Terrace, Whalley Range.
1863 Cambridge Villas, Whalley Range. (upper Chorlton Rd – now demolished)
Re-elected to Manchester Council. Medlock Street Ward.
1871 Cotton & Stone Merchant.
1872 Craven Dunnill & Co Ltd Company - one share. Of Whalley Range, Manchester, Gentleman no occupation.
1881 Census. Woodland House, Upper Chorlton Road. Occupation Cotton Manufacturer.
1882 Woodland House, Whalley Range.
1887 Died 20th August (Man Courier 24/01/1890 court case – F B C Hulton)
Left £22,714 4s 5d (income value £21,250,000)
Of Woodland House, Whalley Range but late of Rixton Lodge Seymour – Grove Stretford.
DEATH OF AN OLD COLNER.—Mr. Alderman J. Craven, an old and respected citizen of Manchester who has just died. was a native and old resident of Colne. He was born and brought up at Carry Bridge, with two brothers, who followed the trade of stone-masons. He left Colne about 45 years ago, and after working in different places, settled in Manchester,

where he attained success and honours. Some 45 years ago he was working in a small way as a stonemason on the Hulme side of Stretford New Road, then mostly fields stretching away beyond Greenheys to Moss Side and Withington. To a great extent the late alderman's prosperity grew with the growing population and house property in Hulme and Moss Side. Through his enterprise and far-seeing, streets upon streets were formed and built upon in these two now most important townships. Subsequently the late alderman became a partner with another conspicuous self-made man—the late Mr. Richard Haworth, of Messrs. Richard Haworth and Co., cotton spinners and manufacturers. On the resignation of Mr. Joseph Eltoft, solicitor, Mr. Craven was on November 2, 1863, elected a member of the Manchester City Council, representing Medlock-street ward. Since then the deceased gentleman has been a most useful man for the city and for a number of years has been Alderman of the Medlock street ward. (Burnley Express 3rd September 1887)

Manchester Times 27th August 1887 mentions him being: *a partner in Hargreaves & Craven, Buxton line, stone, cement &c., merchants of Junction Street Dulcie Street Manchester with extensive works at Fradley near Lichfield. He was also largely interests with the late Mr F.B.C. Hulton in the extension of building property and plots in Hulme and Moss Side*. None of the papers mention Craven Dunnill or the attendance at the funeral of HP Dunnill.

1889 Son at Oakleigh Upper Chorlton Road, Whalley, solicitor

1894 Death of Jonas Craven J.P. of Oak Lea, Upper Chorlton road, Whalley Range and Mellor Hall, Marple.

1905 Death of Wife Sarah (87) of Rixton-Lodge, Whalley Range, 24th July. Effects £3,219 6s 11d.

Remains Historical and literary connected with the palatine cpounties of Lancster and chester Vol 51. 1903 (https://archive.org/stream/remainshistoric200socigoog/remainshistoric200socigoog_djvu.txt)

Mr. James Craven was a native of Lincolnshire (actually Colne, Lancashire), but came to Manchester about 1850, and lived towards the end of his life in Upper Chorlton Road, and at Rixton Lodge, Seymour Grove.

He was an Alderman of the City of Manchester, and his interest in local affairs led to his being elected a member of the Stretford Local Board, as well as a member of the Local Board for the adjacent district of Moss Side. He was a builder by occupation, and soon after coming to Manchester was engaged on the erection of Holy Trinity Church, Stretford Road, Hulme. He died on August 20, 1887.

His eldest daughter Sarah married John Worthington, of the firm of William and John Worthington of Manchester, Contractors, both of whom resided in Seymour Grove, and his grandson, Frank Worthington, became a member of the firm of Crofton, Craven, and Worthington, Solicitors, Manchester. His second daughter, Mary Ann, married Taylor Sharpe, Esq., of Baumber Park, co. Lincoln. He had also three sons, John, Thomas, and Jonas; John died some years ago; Thomas was a partner, and is now a Director, of the firm of Gresham and Craven, Ltd., a Deputy Lieutenant for the county of Chester, and lives at Woodhays Park, Ashton-on-Mersey; he married Annie, daughter of William Halliday Cornforth, Esq., who was Churchwarden of Stretford 1860-1 862, and by her, he has issue three sons and a daughter.

Mr. Jonas Craven married Ada, daughter of David Chadwick, Esq., M.P. for Macclesfield, and died November 21, 1894, aged 42, leaving five sons and three daughters. He was educated at Shrewsbury Grammar School and was admitted as a Solicitor in 1875, after serving his articles with Messrs. Hulton and Lister. Until 1885 he was a partner with Mr. Brett, formerly Town Clerk of Salford, who was for several years partner with Mr. Frederick Blethyn Copley Hulton. In 1885 he joined Mr. H, T. Crofton, who had succeeded to the business of Hulton and Lister, which was thereafter carried on under the title of Crofton and Craven.

He was at one time a member of the Stretford Local Board and lived at Oak Lea, Upper Chorlton Road.
In memory of Alderman Craven, the family erected the north porch of the Manchester Cathedral.
A short account of Mr. Jonas Craven's active career and his portrait appeared in Manchester Faces and Places vol. vi. pp. 60-62.
(https://archive.org/stream/remainshistoric200socigoog/remainshistoric200socigoog_djvu.txt)

Frederick Blethyn Copley Hulton – Wealthy Solicitor & investor

Descendants of Henry VII (https://www.angelfire.com/realm/gotha/Part_h6.htm)
He never married.

1817 Baptised, Malew, IOM. 3rd Oct 1817 - Henry Hulton, Louisa Caroline Campbell.
1860 Withington Road, Moss Side Manchester and also in 1870.
1861 Census: Withington Road, Whalley Range. Occupation Attorney.
1870 F C Hulton at Withington Road, Moss Side. Renting house from John Noblett, Snow Hill.
1871 ?ualey Bank, Moss side Aged 53, Attorney, born Isle of Man.
1872 Craven Dunnill & Co Ltd – five shares. Of Salford, Attorney-at-Law.
1873 Agent for Sun Life, 1 High Street (PO directory of Manchester)
1881 77, Withington Road, Moss Side. Occupation Solicitor.
1886 Died left £458,175 9s 10d. (income value £441,600,000). Will proved by nephews who were executors.
Buried at St Cuthbert, Lytham, Frederick, son of Henry Hulton, esq., Preston (10). Frederick Blethyn Copley, the youngest son, on leaving the school in 1834, was articled to Mr. Charles Buck, attorney, of Preston, and in 1840 was admitted an attorney, entering as a partner in the firm of Cross and Forrest, of Preston. Mr. Cross was father of Richard Assheton Cross, M.P., and died some time before Mr. Hulton joined the firm. In 1845 he came to Manchester, and since 1847 has held the office of registrar to the Salford County Court and clerk to the justices of the New Bailey prison, as well as other official legal appointments. Mr. F. Hulton who is unmarried, and resident at Whalley view, Whalley Range, near Manchester, published in 1841 a small book entitled the practice of the County Courts of Lancashire, and was junior steward of the anniversary festival of 1852. (https://prestonhistory.com/sources-2/manchester-grammar-school-preston-pupils-1740-1837/#_ftn45)

Sir Alexander Hargreaves Brown – wealthy investor

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir_Alexander_Brown,_1st_Baronet

1844 Born 11th April at Beilby Grange, Weatherby, Yorkshire to Alexander & Sarah Benedict Brown
1871 Grosvenor Gardens, Knightsbridge, Magistrate & MP
1872 Craven Dunnill & Co. Ltd – twelve shares. Richmond Hill near Liverpool.
1903 Created 1st Baronet Brown of Broome Hall, Holmwood Surrey.
1922 Died left £1,408,308 18s 4d (income value £519,900,000)

There may be a Hargreaves link through Grace Brown the daughter of William Brown from this family.

Sarah Benedict Brown – Mother of A H Brown –wealthy investor

1819 Birth 12 Nov. in Baltimore, USA.
1871 Living with son at 12, Grosvenor Gardens, Knightsbridge. Eight servants including butler.
1872 Craven Dunnill & Co. Ltd – one share, Richmond Hill, Liverpool
1881 18 Grosvenor Gardens, Knightsbirdge, with 7 servants.
1902 Died 19 Aug - £231,755 1s 9d (income value £172,500,000)

Craven Dunnill Tile Works, Jackfield– Key dates and People

Matilda Rawdon – a wealthy investor

Possible link to the Smith family as Rawdon was used as a middle name for John Peter Gordon Smith's son.

1782 James Rawdon baptised 10 Feb 1782 at North gate End Presbyterian, Halifax.
1794 Matilda Sage. Birth, non-conformist – parish of St Peter Cornhill, Middlesex. Edwards Sage and Sarah who was the daughter of Christopher Rawdon.
1841 69 Brunswick Road, West Derby, Liverpool. James Rawdon 55, Merchant. Living with wife Matilda & 7 servants.
1851 Brunswick Road, West Derby. James Rawdon aged 68 a Merchant
1852 Rawdon had sold the Brunswick House Estate, and the house was being demolished.
1855 Husband James Rawdon died.
1861 11 Edge Lane, Liverpool. Fund holder & Railway Shareholder.
1871 11 Edge Lane, Liverpool.
1872 Craven Dunnill & Co Ltd. one share. 11 Edge Lane, Liverpool.
1881 11 Edge Lane Liverpool.
1882 Matilda Rawdon (Sage) Death - £3,329 4s 10d. (income value £2,970,000). Of Edge-lane, Liverpool. Will was proved by John Peter George Smith of Sweeney(sic) Cliff, Coalport.

John Peter George Smith – Esquire, Merchant, Banker

Probable link to the Rawdon family as Rawdon was used as the middle name for John Peter Gordon Smith's son and he was the executor to Matilda Rawdon.

1778 Birth of elder brother Lord Henry Smith.
1818 Born 16 Oct, Baptised 1 Jan 1819 at St Alphage, Greenwich. Father: Lord Henry (Gentleman), Mother Jane Mary. London Street.
1841 Married Emma Juliana Gray at Hove on 4th November. He was of Liverpool Esquire – Father Esquire. Emma's father was Francis Edward Gray Esquire. – none of them had occupations. Council of Liverpool Anti-monopoly Association Christopher Rawdon on the same council.
1846 Death of daughter Emma. Address Spring-bank, Everton.
1848 Walton on the Hill (Walton Brick) Merchant. Elected as director of Liverpool Union Mill & Bread company.
1849 Death of infant son Herbert Edward Rawdon.
1851 Census: General merchant – Walton on the Hill, West Derby – **near the Rawdon's**
Birth of Francis Rawdon Smith. Baptised 19th June. Walton on the Hill.
1856 Manager Liverpool Borough Bank.
1857 December - Liquidators appointed to Liverpool Borough Bank.
1859 Bankrupt due to failure of Liverpool Borough Bank
Address Spring Bank, Breck Lane, Walton on the Hill. – occupier of a house & land at a rental of £50 per annum and upwards.
1864 Described as Merchant.
1871 Manufacturer at Oakfield Rod Walton on the Hill.
1872 Craven Dunnill & Co Ltd– four chares. Swinney Cliff, near Coalport and listed as 'out of business.'
1881 Census; Retired General merchant & banker.
Son Francis R (29) Encaustic tile manufacturer. (born Walton on the Hill).
1901 Swinney Cliff, Encaustic tile manufacturer
1909 Died 31 May at Abbey gate, Beach-road, Weston-Super-Mare leaving £2,138 17s 2d. Income value (£1,585,000)
He had lived there only two months. Mourners included Sir Alexander & Lady Brown of Liverpool.

Francis Rawdon Smith – Son of JPG, manager

1851 Baptised 19th June. Walton on the Hill.

Craven Dunnill Tile Works, Jackfield– Key dates and People

1881 Census: Living at Sweyney Cliff with parents – Encaustic tile manufacturer.
Married Beatrice Melly, second daughter of George Melly JP of Liverpool at the Ancient Chapel Toxteth.
1891 Census: Francis Rawdon Smith – Eastfield, Ironbridge, Encaustic tile manufacturer.
1901 Census: Francis Rawdon Smith – Eastfield, Ironbridge, Encaustic tile manufacturer.
1910 Marriage of George Francis Rawdon Smith at Lancaster. Son of Francis Rawdon Smith a tile manufacturer.
1911 Census: Francis Rawdon Smith – Eastfield, Ironbridge, Retired Encaustic tile manufacturer manager.
1921 Census: Francis Rawdon Smith – 16 Buildwas Road, retired Encaustic tile manufacturer.
1931 Francis Rawdon Smith (Rugby old boy) died leaving £4,021 (income value £1,591,000)

Henry Powell Dunhill – Printer, Bookseller

See Biography which has some errors.

1821 Born 22 Sept, Wakefield. Mother's maiden name was Powell.
1840 Wakefield Temperance anniversary. Infant Society Secretary.
1841 Living alone Robinsons Yard, Westgate, Wakefield – Bookkeeper.
1842 Lecture on Optics for Wakefield Mechanics' Institution.
1844 Join Secretary of Wakefield Mechanics Institution.
1847 Of Manchester (son of Mr Dunnill, Silver Street, Wakefield) lecture to Mechanics' Institute – Borneo & Tropical Australia.
1848 Life member of Wakefield Mechanics Institution.
1850 Dunnill and Palmer Stationers & Printers in Manchester– first reference found.
H Dunnill (Manchester). Wakefield Temperance Anniversary.
1851 Salem Chapel Wakefield, of the firm of Dunnill & Palmer stationers Manchester to Eliza the daughter of George Lee Esq of Providence House Wakefield.
1856 D&P published Manchester Papers - Educational essays.
1860 Partnership dissolved. H Dunnill & J Plamer, Manchester engravers. Dunnill leaves the partnership.
1861 Stretford Manchester – lithographic Printer.
Powell & Dunnill Lithographic and Chromo printers, engravers, embossers & pattern card makers dissolved.
1862 Henry Dunnill leaves partnership with John Plamer & Thomas Howe. Dunnill Palmer & Co English & Foreign Booksellers and Printers.
Lived at Cambridge Villas owned by Craven.
1864 Warehouse in 5 Cross Street, St Anns Ward, Manchester.
1865 Death of son Herbert Sydney – Cambridge Villas Whalley Range – next door to or with Craven!
H. S. Born Q3 Chorlton District – death Q1 Charlton district.
1867 Eliza died. 13 Aug at Clarendon Villa, Cotham, Bristol. Wife of H. Dunnill late of Walley Range Manchester. Clifton district Q3 1867.
1868 First reference in newspapers to Dunnill in Broseley.
1871 8 March. Married Eliza Jane the daughter of Rev. Samuel Evans of Ironbridge.
1872 Limited Company – four shares. Jackfield, Tile manufacturer.
1895 Died 26th March – estate £3,128 14s 10d. Death Notice in Manchester papers.

Frederick Charles Howells 1864-1933, manager

The Father

Thomas Howells was baptised on 27th April 1823 in Holdgate a small hamlet in Corvedale. In 1841 the family were living at Brookhampton to the east of Holdgate. His father Thomas Snr. had died and

his mother Mary aged 50 is listed as a publican with Thomas (15) being employed as an agricultural labourer. In 1843 he married Ann Evans, a native of Broseley in Shrewsbury and by 1851 he had trained as a cordwainer and moved to Broseley where his family were lodging with his father-in-law Thoams Evans, a coalminer in Hockley Road. In April 1861 he was clearly doing well for himself as his is listed as a shoe manufacturer and was living on Barratts Hill. His wife Ann had died earlier in the year and his mother had moved in with the family. In 1863 married Mary Williams.
Thomas continued to live on Barratts Hill until his death in 1900, styling himself as a Master shoemaker in 1891. The house was rented and when it was sold in 1902 it was described as a Messuage or Dwelling House with yard and outbuildings. There was a cottage at the back of the dwelling on Padmans Alley both properties together were the subject to an amercement rent of 6s 8d to Lord Forester.
Thomas was said to have been a devoted member of the Congregational Church. He held the office of treasurer for several years, was a senior deacon up to the time of his death and had been superintendent of the Sunday School for 40 years.
Mary died in 1902 and is also buried in the family grave.

Children

Edwin	1850-1927 Shoemaker - married Hephzibah Churchman 4/7/1882
Isaac	1852
Mary Ann	1856
Selina	1858-1862
John H	1866-1926

Frederic Charles (1864-1933)

He may have been taken under the wing of Henry Powell Dunnill who was a prominent member of the Congregational Church. In 1881 he is listed as an Encaustic tile designer presumably working at Dunnill's and married Harriet Davies on 24th December 1885 at Benthall Church.
Managing Director of Jackfield Tile Firm.
The death occurred with tragic suddenness on April 12 of one of Broseley's best known and most men. Mr. Frederick Charles Howells. of Field House Mr Howells was in his 70th year, was present at a sale at Wellington to the afternoon. when he was taken suddenly ill and was taken home in a police ambulance. He died at 9 p.m. without regaining consciousness.
In business Mr. Howells was managing director of Messer's. Craven Dunnill and Co Ltd. tile manufacturers, of Jackfield. A native of Broseley, he had spent all his tile in the tilemaking trade. He started as a boy in Craven Dunnill's drawing office. At the age of 21(actually 23) he moved to Ruabon, taking up a position in the office of Messrs. J. C. Edwards and Co. About 37 years ago he was appointed head draughtsman at Pilkington's tile and pottery works, Clifton Junction. near Manchester and held that position until 1915, when he retained to become managing-director of the newly-formed company of Craven Dunnill and Co. Ltd.
While not taking a prominent part, in public affairs, Mr. Howells was highly respected in Broseley and district. He had been a Nonconformist all his life and for many years had been prominently associated with the Broseley Wesleyan Methodist Church. He was also a vice - president of Broseley Cricket Club and a trustee of the Victoria Institute. A Freemason for a number of years he was a member of the St George's Lodge, Manchester. (Shrewsbury Chronicle 21st April 1904)
He left Broseley in November 1887 at which time he was the treasurer for the United Band of Hope and Temperance Society. The 1891 census the family was living at Trefynant Road, Cefn Mawr, and he is listed as a Designer. J. C Edwards ran the Trefyant Brickworks. Amongst other things they produced glazed and enamelled bricks and terracotta as well as wall and encaustic tiles since at least 1881. They suppled the floor tiles for the Titanic as decorative terracotta tiles and glazed white tiles for the London Underground. (https://www.pontcysyllte-aqueduct.co.uk/object/brickworks/ Life in the Victorian brickyards of Flintshire and Denbighshire. A Connolly)

Craven Dunnill Tile Works, Jackfield– Key dates and People

In 1901 the family were at The Rooks, Rooks Lane, Clifton Junction, (near the Pilkinton Works) and his is listed as a tile designer. They were at the same house in 1911 and had employed a female servant. He died on 12th April 1933 and left £12,414 5s 2d (income value £4,980,000) with probate to his widow Harriet.
Harriett continued to live at Field House until she died in 1946. She left £16,453 5s 7d (income value £3,074,000) with probate to Thomas Wilfred Howells company director (Craven Dunnill?)



Figure 1 Fred and Harriet Howells (left) outside Field House with two members of the Broadhurst family (Broadhurst family collection)

Thomas Wilfred Howells 1887-1965

He was the only child of Frederick and Harriet.
He was born in Broseley in 1887 moving with his family to Ruabon and then to Clifton, Lancashire. In 1911 Thomas was living at Rooks Haven, Rake Leave, Clifton Junction, and was a Tile, Faience & mosaic designer presumably working at Pilkington's. He married Margaret Bowness, a Domestic Science Teacher (1888-1976) at Bolton in 1919 (Q2). Her father was a drysalter, oil refiner & paint merchant and had died in 1908. By 1921 he had returned to Broseley to take over the managership of the Craven Dunnill works and his family were living at Hurstlea next door to Alison House where his parents lived. He was living at the same house in 1939 and is listed as 'Managing director glazed & floor tile company'. They also owned Hurstlea which was next door. This was sold off in 1946. Thomas died in September 1965 at Hurstlea, Conduit Lane, Bridgnorth with probate to his wife Margaret. He left £10,487 (income value £568,700).

George Frederich Howells (1922-1988)

Mr Howells was born in Broseley in 1922, educated at Shrewsbury School and Oxford University before volunteering for service in H M Forces, seeing active service with the Royal Artillery in Normandy, Belgium, Holland and Germany. On leaving the army in 1945 with the rank of Captain. he joined his father at the Jackfield Works of Craven Dunnill & Co Ltd, guiding the company's move to Bridgnorth in the mid-fifties
He became Managing Director in the early 1960's, turning the company's fortunes to become one of the first and most successful distributors of ceramic tiles in the country, building the business to be one of the leaders in its field, well-respected throughout the Ceramic Tile Industry.

Craven Dunnill Tile Works, Jackfield– Key dates and People

In 1985. taking well-deserved semi-retirement, he remained as Company Chairman, still providing the drive and energy so typifying his career, which spanned more than 40 years in the Ceramic Tile Industry. where he will be long remembered as one of the men of vision who shaped the distribution of ceramic tiles for years to come
Mr Howells was a member of Bridgnorth Golf Club for 50 years, and a Vice-President of Bridgnorth Cricket Club.
He is survived by his wife Nina. son Peter, daughter Lesley and two grandsons, Nicholas and Simon.
(Bridgnorth Journal 18th November 1988
He left £721,638 gross, £708, 284 net.

S. Dewhirst
03/11/2025

Sources – Ironbridqe Gorge Museum

Ironbridge Reports

IAS70 Tile Museum Archaeological Evaluation 1997
Survey of the site with a plan listing all the buildings.
IAS108
North Range – draft report with no illustrations.
IAS 166 Foundry Building 2005
Demolition for construction of Fusion.
IAS 190-1 and -2. 2009
Background and survey of the site including mill buildings – does not include a plan of the site.
Archaeology in Ironbridge 1981-5
Excavation of bottle kilns
Jackfield Interim Report 2004 – not published
Produced for the excavation of drainage trenches in the yard. General historical background, plan of works
Mosaic Workshop 2004
Draft report not published.
Jackfield Trends 2004
Details of trenches

Thesis

Aa Archaeological and Historical Study of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Pottery Industry, at Jackfield' Shropshire. 1983m Larissa Rimmell
Craven Dunnill Clay preparation Building. 1992, David Worth
The kiln building Craven Dunnill Tile Works. 1990, Miriam Stead.

Nuffield Report Jackfield & Broseley. 1988
Drawings in Archaeology Cabinets.

Oral history

Jack Edwards, Len Edwards, Bert Griffiths, R Highway, Cecil Hudson, Ethel Hudson, Norman Hudson, Jack Jarvis, Bill Jones, Bernard Maddox, Willie Macloed, Bert Meredith, Mabel Nickless, Bill Rikus, Benjamin Rogers, Mary Travers. Mrs Williams.