

Townscape Heritage Project

Building Timeline

144 HIGH STREET



INTRODUCTION

The research to create a timeline of the historic buildings of Stockton has drawn on resources such as trade directories, newspapers and census information. Whilst we have been able to construct some quite detailed pictures, there are gaps which we would like to fill. If you have any further information that could assist us, please contact Eleanor.blyth@stockton.gov.uk.

We would like to thank volunteers who have worked on the timelines.



HESLOP

There is a suggestion that the address was the home of Mary Heslop between 1834-1842

There are references in the press to Doctor Lamb touring various locations in the North East in 1837, offering medical advice. One of the venues stated is Mrs Heslop High Street, Stockton but no number is stated. Enquiries are ongoing to identify whether this is correct.



C 1851 DODSHON

John Dodshon was born in Darlington 1812. He was a prominent citizen of Stockton as a local businessman but also as a philanthropist. He was president of the Temperance Society and also was a devout Quaker.

He was Vice Chairman of the School Board .

He is recorded at the address for a brief period .

In the 1841 Census he is a druggist in Bishop Auckland.

In the 1851 Census John Dodshon, Chemist, Druggist and Confectioner is living at 144 High Street with his wife Elizabeth, his children and servants. There are also two apprentices living at the address.

The 1861 Census records John Dodshon at 2 Sights Place Stockton. He is a Wholesale Grocer employing 4 men.

In 1871 John Dodshon is living at Ashfield House, Stockton. He is a Wholesale Grocer employing 9 men and 1 boy.

The Northern Echo of 25th February 1875 records the occasion of Dodshon’s funeral.

Dodshon was clearly held in high regard. The Northern Echo dated 6th April 1877 reports on a painting unveiled in his honour and the South Durham & Cleveland Mercury 14th April 1877 references a public subscription for a memorial.

THE DODSHON MEMORIAL AT STOCKTON.—At a meeting of the Dodshon Memorial Committee, held in the Town-hall, Stockton, on Friday evening, it was decided, subject to the approval of the Town Council, to erect the proposed memorial to the late Mr. John Dodshon, of Stockton, which consists of a handsome ornamental drinking fountain, upon a prominent site in the centre of the High-street.

FATAL BATHING ACCIDENTS.—On Friday night a young man named Edward Robinson, living at Lawrent's Dining Rooms, in Dovecote-street, was drowned whilst bathing near the Horse Shoe in the Tees. James Peel, a railway porter, was also drowned in the Tees at Stockton on Friday. He is supposed to have been seized with cramp.

Figure 1 York Herald - Monday 01 July 1878

FUNERAL OF MR. JOHN DODSHON, OF STOCKTON.

Yesterday afternoon, the mortal remains of Mr Dodshon were conveyed to their last resting place in the burial ground adjoining the Friends Meeting House, Mill-lane, Stockton, in the presence of a large concourse of people. The time announced for the funeral was 11 o'clock, at which time the late residence of the deceased, was 315 o'clock, previous to which time numbers of the inhabitants assembled in the vicinity to pay the last mark of respect to one whom they revered. Punctually at the appointed time, the hearse was drawn up to the door of Ashfield, into which was placed the remains, which were enclosed in a threefold coffin, the middle one lead, and the outer one oak, with three mournings; upon a brass plate attached thereto was the simple inscription "John Dodshon, died 29th Feb., 1876, aged 64 years." When the hearse moved away, there followed in succession six mourning coaches, containing the family and relatives of the deceased, as follows:—Mrs Dodshon and Mr W. Dodshon, Mr and Mrs Lewis Dodshon, Mr and Mrs Ineson, Darlington; Mr and Mrs James Stockton; Mr and Mrs F. Williams. The following private carriages succeeded, namely, those of Mr Henry Pesse, Darlington; Mr Edgar Gilkes, Mr John Dunning, Mr W. Taylor, and Miss Smith, Middleborough; Mr A. Pesse, Mr H. F. Pesse, and Mr H. F. Pesse, Darlington; Mr Joseph Richardson, Mr W. Benington, and Mr T. G. Thomson, Stockton. The remainder of the procession was formed in the following order:—Employees of Messrs J. Dodshon and Co.; members of the Society of Friends; clergymen of the several churches in the town; members of the School Board; children of the British School, to the number of about 250, in charge of Mr J. Dixon, the master; members of the Temperance Society and Good Templars; general public. Amongst the assemblage was observed Messrs E. F. Pesse, Mayor of Darlington; Mr G. M. Watson, Mayor of Stockton; Mr Arthur Pesse, Mr Theodore West, Mr J. T. Shewell, Mr S. Eise, Mr J. E. Hodkin, Mr Alfred Middleborough, Mr G. S. Gilkes, Mr W. Forthright, Mr Ed. Robson, Mr J. Wadhams, Mr T. E. Pesse, Mr B. Robinson, Mr W. Harding, Mr John Sherr, Mr Alfred Kitching, Mr A. Odsworth, and Mr W. T. Cadworth, Mr E. L. Pesse, Mr W. Johnson, Darlington; Mr J. Bigland, Bishop Auckland; Mr Joseph Frer, Smelt House; Mr Frederick Taylor, Sunderland; Mr J. M. Brown, Mr W. C. Parker, Darlington; the Rev. Thomas Law, Vicar of St. James'; Rev. George Roberts, vicar of Thornaby; Rev. H. Moore (Baptist), Rev. J. Kirk (Wesleyan), Rev. T. Hoggie (Presbyterian), Rev. S. McAulay (Wesleyan), Rev. Wm. Leung (Baptist), Rev. D. R. Falconer, vicar of Stockton; Rev. Hugh Rose (Presbyterian), Messrs W. Whitwell, J. Beldan, J. E. Brown, T. Braithwaite, John Alderson, A. C. Knowles, W. Benington, G. Lowwood, Jas. Stoddart, Francis Sanderson, T. Watwell, G. Benington, W. H. Benington, J. W. Watson, W. B. Brayshaw, A. Braby, M. Allop, J. Coning, T. Woodman, J. H. Evans, Dr Pangburn, W. Best, Henry Smith, W. J. Watson, R. Appleton, W. O. Edwards, W. Weldon, C. J. Archer, D. Gammage, T. E. Answorth, P. Lailler, W. Vestress, Jos. Craddock, J. R. Walker, Wm. Martin, A. Holmes, J. H. Jackson, J. Yarwood, R. K. Atkinson, R. H. Appleton, J. J. Sanders, Ambrose Walker, J. Watson, C. Young, P. Dunnes, J. Kinder, J. A. Sanders, J. Trotter, M. Penson, J. Robinson, J. Taylor, E. D. Bayley, G. Foskic, S. Gladstone, W. Barrett, W. Ward, B. Blakely, J. Briggs, W. W. Wilson, R. Smith, G. Fildes, Stockton; Mr Theodore West, Middleborough; Messrs E. Withy, J. Waters, J. W. Steele, West Hartlepool.

In Yarm road, and along the course of the procession, many of the inhabitants had their blinds down in token of their respect; and both in the neighbourhood of the meeting-house and in the street between the meeting-house and the residence there were many spectators. The funeral cortege slowly proceeded to the grave, which is behind the meeting-house, near by where several members of the late Mr Dodshon's family repose. A number of ladies and others not present in the procession here joined the company of mourners. The mourners stood for some time round the grave, gazing at the coffin, which contained the remains of him they so highly esteemed. The silence was broken by Mr Theodore West, of Darlington, who, opening with a reference to the words of Scripture, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord," spoke of the consolations which abound in view of the removal of one who in the family and in the world lived as did their departed friend.

The coffin was then lowered, and the company departed, most of them in the first place into the Friends Meeting House close by, which was quite filled, many being present who belong to other Christian denominations, and among them most of the ministers above-mentioned as forming part of the procession. Here, with intervals of silence between, short but deeply solemn and impressive addresses were delivered by Messrs Frederick Taylor, of Sunderland; Wm. Taylor, of Middleborough; and Theodore West and Samuel Hare, of Darlington. The second of the speakers was the only one who in more than general terms alluded to the life of usefulness spanned by the deceased. It was one, he said, that illustrated by example the teachings of Christianity. Their friend had not been exempt from the cares and troubles which were the common lot. Wars after wars of sorrow had passed over him, but he had stood firm, upheld by the grace of God. It had been his privilege to hear the first words which the beloved departed spoke in that meeting, now many years ago, and he also heard the last which he addressed to them, and he could bear testimony to the faithfulness with which, from first to last, he believed the message entrusted to him. He was in all things faithful, in his life as well as in his teachings; and he was sure that the little company who met in that place would often have before their minds his well-loved face, and wish that they could again hear his familiar voice.—Mr Arthur Pesse offered supplications, after which Mr William Robson briefly acknowledged the tribute paid to his friend, and the meeting terminated. The arrangements for the funeral were most efficiently carried out by Messrs Francis Vetherell and Sons, undertakers, High-street, Stockton.

DEATH FROM EXCESSIVE DRINKING NEAR GUISEBROUGH.

A man named William Ward, an ironstone miner, aged 48, has expired from the effects of temperance at Skelton Green, near Guisborough. He deceased had been drinking for some days, and on Sunday evening he returned home drunk, and lay on the kitchen floor, with a bottle of rum

Figure 2 Dodshon’s funeral 25th February 29875



A fountain to provide clean water for public use was erected in 1878 as a tribute to Dodshon.

The fountain was designed by William Henman of Stockton who had given his labour free of charge.

STOCKTON—OPENING OF A PUBLIC MEMORIAL.
—Yesterday afternoon a large and beautifully designed drinking fountain, erected in the High Street, Stockton, to the memory of the late Mr Jno. Dodshon, merchant, first president of the temperance society, was opened by Mr Jos. Dodds, M.P. for the borough, in the presence of the Mayor and several members of the Corporation, the clergy and ministers of the town, and a large assemblage of the general public. The fountain, which has been designed by Mr W. Henman, architect, and erected by Mr Bowron, is intended for the use of man and beast, and occupies a prominent position at the south end of the Market Place. Mr Dodds gracefully performed the ceremony, and alluded to the philanthropic works of the late Mr Dodshon. The memorial was received by the Mayor (Ald. Jos. Richardson) on behalf of the town. The other speakers were the Rev. T. Law, the Rev. J. W. Carillo, the Rev. J. Bogus, and Councillor L. Dodshon.

The press refers to the fountain as being intended for use 'by man and beast'. At the base of the fountain, drinking troughs for animals were provided.

According to the National Probate Calendar he left an estate of under £16,000 equivalent to 1.8 Million today.

Figure 3 Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer - Tuesday 27 August 1878



Photograph 1 Dodshon Memorial Fountain: Stockton Heritage



C 1879 SMITH

Joseph Smith, and Co is recorded in press advertisements as a Cabinet Maker and Upholsterer in the 1870s. The 1879 Postal Directory records Joseph Smith a Cabinet Maker and Upholsterers category and the Carpet Warehouseman section.

The 1881 Commercial Directory for Stockton-on-Tees records Joseph Smith & Co. Cabinet Makers, Upholsterers, Undertakers and Carpet Factors at the address. In the 1881 census Joseph Smith is found living at the address he was a Cabinet maker and upholsterer employing 6 men and two women. He lived there with his wife Mary and their children they had two servants Lucy Bagnall and Mary Curran.

C 1894 DUNCAN/WEIGHELL

The Directories show RE Duncan Tobacconist and J Weighell Tees Valley Dairy Co. at the premises in 1894.

The Northern Echo contains an advert for the sale of 144 High Street. The advert gives a description of the premises and confirms the presence of Duncan with a lock up shop and Weighell with a dwelling house, shop, workshops and stable. The building is described as three storeys high.



Figure 5 Northern Echo - Wednesday 22 February 1893

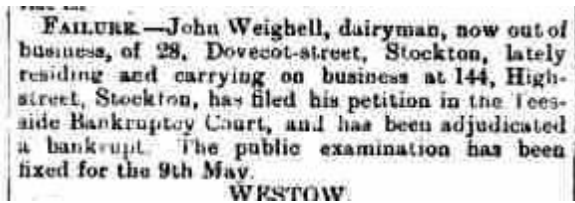


Figure 4 York Herald - Friday 20 April 1894

The reason for the sale is apparent in the press report of the failure of Weighell’s business.



C 1893 PUBLIC BENEFIT BOOT COMPANY

The arrival of the Public Benefit Boot Company was announced in the press with some humour in 1893. Referencing the recent visit of the Duke and Duchess of York to the region, the Public Boot Company's opening is claimed as an event that overshadowed the royal visit.

The Public Benefit Boot Company with N Ellis Manger as is found in the Wards Directories from 1896-1897 through till 1908-1909. The 1911 Census summary records 144 High Street as a lock up shop, the Public Benefit Boot Company.

In 1897 the press reported a case where a young woman from a prominent local family stole items from High Street shops, including the Public Benefit Boot Company.

The Public Benefit Boot Company can be seen in this photograph with Robinson's Department Store, the Coliseum at number 149-150.

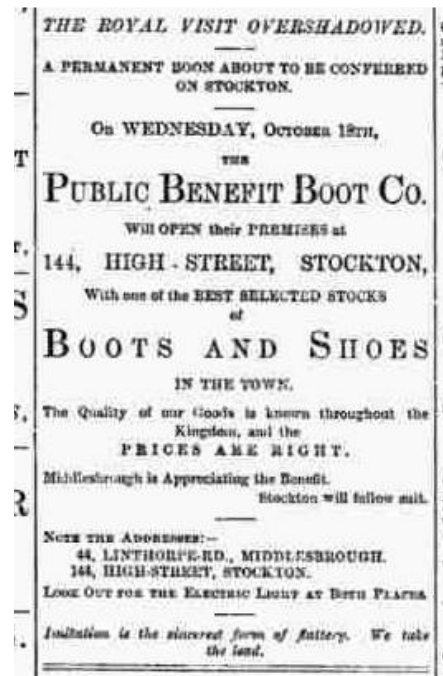


Figure 6 Northern Weekly Gazette - Saturday 21 October 1893



...from injuries sustained by jumping out of a window whilst temporarily insane.

THE SHOPLIFTING BY A YARM WOMAN AT STOCKTON
KLEPTOMANIA OR THEFT!

To-day at Stockton Borough Police Court, before Messrs M. B. Dodds, T. Nelson, J. H. Amos, and C. J. Bagley, Henrietta Hills (27), of Yarm, was brought up in custody on remand charged with stealing three rolls of ribbon and other articles from the shop of Mr W. F. Wilson, draper, High-street, on Wednesday, December 30. She was also charged with stealing a pair of slippers from the shop of the Public Benefit Boot Company, High-street; and also with stealing a number of articles from the shop of Messrs M. Robinson and Co., drapers. She was remanded a week ago, and the Bench offered to bail her out, but no bail was presented, and she has spent the week in the cells. Public interest was evinced in the case owing to the position occupied by the prisoner's family in Yarm, and the Court was crowded.—Mr W. F. Wilson said that on the 30th of December the prisoner came to his shop, and asked to see some ribbon. She bought a small quantity, and from what an assistant told him he followed her into the street, and accosted her, when two rolls of ribbon fell from under her arm. He took her to the police station. On the following day a search-warrant was taken out, and

ON SEARCHING HER HOME

a quantity of small articles to the value of £2 was found, which he identified as his property.—Emily Annie Willis, assistant at Mr Wilson's shop, said the prisoner came into the shop and bought a yard of ribbon. As she left the shop witness saw her take up a roll of ribbon from the counter and put it under her cloak. She told Mr Wilson, who followed her. Witness had seen prisoner in the shop several times since last April.—Inspector Dunn said that on December 30, at about 4.45 p.m., prisoner was brought to the police station by Mr Wilson, who said she had taken two rolls of ribbon. Witness searched her basket, and found another roll of ribbon in it. He charged her with stealing it, when she said, "I don't know what made me take it." He took out a search warrant and searched her house at Yarm, when he found a large quantity of other goods, some of which Mr Wilson identified as his property.—The prisoner pleaded guilty, saying, "It is true."—Prisoner was then charged with stealing a bottle of scent, a purse, two silver match boxes, three letter cases, a pair of gloves, etc., from the shop of Messrs M. Robinson and Co., drapers.—Mr Thomas Henry Robinson stated that on the 30th ult. Inspector Dunn

BROUGHT CERTAIN ARTICLES

to the shop which were identified as having been stolen. He accompanied Inspector Dunn to Yarm, where the prisoner's house was searched, and a satchel and other articles found. Prisoner had been in the shop same day.—Inspector Dunn produced articles which were found in the house, and which prisoner first said she bought, but afterwards admitted having stolen.—Prisoner was also charged with stealing a pair of slippers value 1s 11d from the shop of the Public Benefit Boot Company, High-street. It was proved that prisoner went into the shop and asked for a pair of ball boots to be changed, and while Miss Fybus, the assistant, had her back turned she secreted the slippers, which were found in her basket at the police station.—Mr Smith (Barron and Smith), of Darlington, on behalf of the prisoner, pleaded guilty to each charge, and said the prisoner was a young married woman living happily with her husband, who was the son of Mr Richard Hills, J.P., of Yarm.

THERE WAS NO MOTIVE

for the prisoner taking these goods, as she was in no way in need, and most of the goods were such as she could not possibly use. He pleaded that she was afflicted with a malady called kleptomania, and he asked the Bench, as she had been a week in prison, not to send her back.—The Bench, having consulted in private, Mr Dodds said it had been very painful to listen to the evidence, but neither their sympathy nor the pathetic speech of her solicitor could be allowed to weigh too much. They hesitated to send her to prison, and taking into account that she had already been in prison seven days, and also that the articles found on her were all stolen in one day, they had decided to deal with her under the First Offenders Act, and bound her over to be of good behaviour for six months, with two sureties of £25 each. This would give her friends an opportunity of reuniting her, and furnish them with a motive for taking care of her.—The sureties were produced, and the woman liberated.

SMOKE LAMPS & ...

Figure 7 Public Benefit Boot: North-Eastern Daily Gazette (7th January 1897)



C 1972 WOOLWORTH

144 was Stockton's Branch of F.W Woolworth from 1930 until 1972.

C 1974 HARDY'S FURNISHINGS

Hardy's took over the premises. There is little information about the company at the property.

There however is an advert from 1974.

Double up on great value at Hardy's!
2 super value buys with the 1974 look
 Take your pick of these beautifully practical home improvers at Hardy's own very special prices now!



Luxury 'Italia' lounge units just £36 each
 'Italia' is new and exciting. 'Italia' is for the young at heart! Apart from all the soft welcoming luxury under those stylish Continental looks, 'Italia' is a brilliant new range of versatile units. From single chairs with or without arms, they can be grouped together as 2, 3, 4 or more seater settees and taken 'round the corner' with our special matching table. With 'Italia' you buy the arms as separate units and clip them in wherever you want them. They will stay firmly in place and can easily be changed about, if required. Hardy's leave the choosing to you. You buy ONLY the units you require.
 CHAIRS £36 each, ARMS £7-50 each, MATCHING CORNER TABLE £14-50.

'Alpine' units for beautiful bedrooms
 'Alpine' gives you just as much matching bedroom furniture as you want. Start with this twin wardrobe/dressing set featuring HIS fitted wardrobe, HERS hanging wardrobe and dressing table with an unusual 'easy design' back-lighted mirror. Finished in elegant satin-finish white with brown, and brass-coloured handles. Magnetic latches hold the doors shut on the extra depth wardrobes. Approx. dimensions: Wardrobes 3'0" wide, 21 1/2" deep, 64 1/2" tall. Dressing unit: 25 1/2" wide, 10" deep. 3 piece unit as illustrated: **£99-50**
 Plus a full range of matching units to choose from including drawer chests with or without mirrors, wardrobes, dressing tables, bedside cabinets and headboards.

See for yourself at your nearest branch

ASHINGTON 22-24 Station Road	CORBETT 24-26 Road Street	HEBBURN 22-24 James Hall	NORTH SHIELDS 94 Bedford Street	STOCKTON 144 High Street
BISHOP Auckland 18 Market Place	CRUICK 30 North Terrace	HEXHAM 1/2-3 Rosewell Street	REDCAR 48 High Street	SUNDERLAND 62-62 Fawcett Street
BLYTH 31-33-35 Market Street	DARLINGTON 55-57 Northgate	JARROW Arden House, Grange Road	SEAHAM HARBOUR 35-37 Church Street	WALLSEND 305-309 High St. West
BYERLEY 45-52 Shields Road	HARTLEPOOL The Shopping Centre, 133-134 Midburn	ROSEBROUGH 35-38 Newport Road	SOUTH SHIELDS 3-5 King Street	WYKE STANLEY 99-101 Front Street
CHESTER-LE-STRÉE 46-50 Front Street	GRANGE 133-134 Midburn	NEWCASTLE 64-68 Clayton Street	SPRINTWOOD 12-13 Parkwood Practice	WHITLEY BAY 283/285 Whitley Road

Also available:
 Super values in dining room furniture, bedroom suites, lounge suites, a really fabulous range of broadloom carpets, and Colour-TV with 12 months' FREE MAINTENANCE!
We charge less because we sell more at
HARDY'S

NO DEPOSIT - and 36 weeks to pay - or longer credit up to 2 years also available

Figure 8 Newcastle Evening Chronicle - Friday 12 July 1974

NORTH EASTERN COOP

After Hardy's the North Eastern Coop is at 144 High Street.

