

# Townscape Heritage Project

## Building Timeline

42 NORTON ROAD  
(PREVIOUSLY 2 HARDWICK  
TERRACE)



**Stockton-on-Tees**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

## 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](mailto:Eleanor.blyth@stockton.gov.uk).

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

## HARDWICK TERRACE

Hardwick Terrace is incorporated into the numbering system of Norton Road at some point during its history which has made the research into the building timeline quite challenging.

## C 1861 KIGHTLEY

Thomas Joseph Kightley, Independent Minister of the Congregational Chapel is at 2 Hardwick Terrace with his wife and children according to the 1861 Census. The North & South Shields Gazette and Northumberland and Durham Advertiser 1<sup>st</sup> May 1862 refers to Mr Kightley informing his congregation that he is leaving the parish. Indeed, the 1871 Census shows that the Kightley family had moved to Suffolk.

## C 1871 KNOTT

The 1871 Census shows Elizabeth Knott, widow residing at the address with her son William. She is an Insurance Agent for the Royal Liver Friendly Society. Reuban Knott, Elizabeth's husband was a grocer in Stockton, registered in the 1861 Census, Reuban Knott died on 31<sup>st</sup> October 1868, presumably prompting the move to Hardwick Terrace. The Durham Chronicle of 6th November 1868 records Reuban Knott's death, recording his occupation as an Assurance Agent so perhaps Elizabeth, whilst not maintaining the grocery business after Reuban's death, was able to carry on that aspect of their livelihood.

The Royal Liver Society was formed as the Liverpool Lyver Burial Society, created by a group of Liverpool working men in the Lyver Inn on 24 July 1850 to "provide for the decent interment of deceased members". The society expanded to have branches throughout the country. The 1881 Census records William Knott, Insurance Agent at 2 Hardwick Terrace. It appears that William carried on the agency.





Figure 1 Royal Liver Friendly: Stockton Herald, South Durham and Cleveland Advertiser – (3 January 1880)

By 1901 William has moved to Battersea, London and is working as a bus conductor.

#### C 1887 NORRIS

The Daily Gazette for Middlesbrough of 3rd June 1887 provides an account of a theft of a sovereign from James Norris' butcher's shop, Norton Road by a 15 year old employee. The 1891 Census confirms the presence of James Norris Butcher at 2 Hardwick Terrace. Norris is still present in 1889, as evidenced by an advert in the Northern Weekly Gazette - Saturday 06 July 1889 for a servant. The continued presence of Norris, butcher at 2 Hardwick Terrace is indicated in the 1890 Kelly's Directory and the 1894 Whelan's directory.

#### C 1899 JOHNSON

The next occupant of 2 Hardwick Terrace is a butcher called Robert Johnson. Prior to obtaining his own premises Robert is found in the 1891 Census working for William Husband, Butcher at 1 and 2 Norton Road. He must have taken up occupancy of the Hardwick Terrace address shortly afterwards as his presence is indicated earlier in a report of a theft from the premises in 1899. He is recorded with his wife Annie and family at 2 Hardwick Terrace in the 1901 Census. Johnsons butchers is recorded in the Directories from 1900 – 1925.



In 1903, Robert Johnson places an advert in the Sunderland Daily Echo and Shipping Gazette - Wednesday 04 February 1903 seeking a business premises for a butcher's shop in Sunderland.

There was some family trouble in 1909. The Stockton Herald, South Durham and Cleveland Advertiser reports that an old age pensioner, Peter Johnson of Hardwick Terrace was prosecuted for betting in the street. This Robert's father who is recorded as living with him at 2 Hardwick Terrace according to the 1911 Census . Peter was formerly an innkeeper at the North-Eastern Hotel 163-166 High Street.

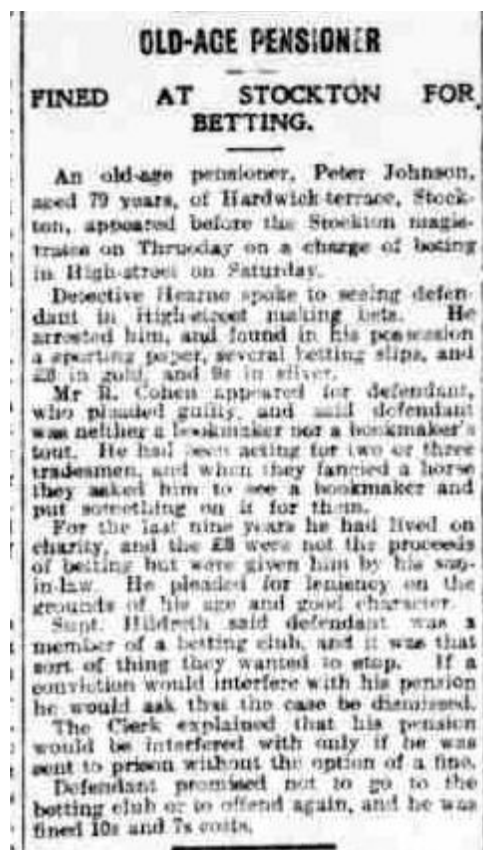


Figure 2 Old Ace Pensioner: The Stockton Herald, South Durham and Cleveland Advertiser (23 October 1909)

At the beginning of the twentieth century the working classes were involved in a variety of gambling activities, street betting being a practice that entailed the backing of horses outside of the confines of the racecourse. Bets were often taken to betting houses, which were illegal under the 1853 Betting Houses Act, or to bookmakers who operated in the streets. It was asserted locally in Stockton that action would be taken but here, as elsewhere there were problems with the legislation. There were debates about the morality of gambling. The National Anti-Gambling League (NAGL), formed and financed by the York chocolate maker B. Seebohm Rowntree, a Quaker, sought to control gambling, particularly



working-class gambling. There was a view that gambling put working class women at risk of moral degradation. Stockton Herald. The South Durham and Cleveland Advertiser - Saturday 13 October 1900, for example, discussed the issue of gambling among female factory workers, stating that the women were gambling with their earnings and 'if they lose as they must do in the long run, the downward path is wide open to them.'

Conversely the Act was seen in some quarters as criminalising the working classes, with one law for the rich and another for the poor.<sup>1</sup> Peter Johnson never lived to see the legalisation of the activity for which he was prosecuted. It was the 1960's that saw the legalisation of off course gambling allowing the introduction of the betting shop.

The extent of the practice of street betting is illustrated in an article in the 1906 article in the Stockton Herald, South Durham and Cleveland Advertiser - Saturday 13 October 1906 which details the level of fines levied against what were often repeat offenders, one of which, Robert Wood had 47 previous convictions.

The Johnsons were in occupation of the premises during the First World War. The 1911 Census shows that the Johnsons had 3 sons living with them: Wilfred, aged 17 years, a butcher and Frederick and Norman, both of school age.

The Stockton Herald, South Durham and Cleveland Advertiser of Saturday 27 October 1917 records the sad news of the notification to Mr and Mrs Johnson that their son Frederick was killed in action.

It is not known whether Wilfred and Norman served in the war. There is a record of a Wilfred Johnson that is a close match in terms of age but the next of kin details do not correlate with his father's details.

#### C 1930 JACKSON

Jackson butcher is recorded in the 1930 Ward's Directory. Jackson's remains in 1938 when the street numbering changes to 42 Norton Road.

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<sup>1</sup> 3 Parliamentary Debates, Commons, 1906, vol. 162, col. 862.





C1991 TOMMY TUCKER’S



Figure 3 Tommy Tucker’s: Stockton & Billingham Herald & Post (31 July 1991)

C 2018 FRANKIE’S FISHING

Frankie’s Fishing is currently at the address in 2023.

