

Minehead's Villa Legacy and Late Victorian to Edwardian School of Architects

South West Heritage Trust
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1. Introduction

The town of Minehead in West Somerset has a rich legacy of late Victorian and Edwardian architecture, notably expressed in the development of delightful villas and guesthouse, and the picturesque landscape in which they were set. This legacy arose from its promotion as a fashionable holiday resort by the Luttrell family of Dunster Castle, the town's major landowner, the vision of key investors, and the skills of a small number of predominately local architects, surveyors and builders.

This account is taken from the following sources:

- the 2002 Minehead Conservation Area Appraisal (by the author at Somerset County Council)
- the research work of the late Oliver Davies, local amateur architectural historian and distinguished musician, and Sally Bainbridge, Chair of the Minehead Conservation Society
- the late Russell Lillford, head of Somerset County Council's Architectural and Historic Heritage Group from the early 1980s to 2009, former chair of the Somerset Building Preservation Trust, and author of '*A Biographical Dictionary of Somerset Architects & Surveyors up to 1939*' (2023)
- the findings of Julian Orbach for the revised Pevsner Buildings of England guide for South and West Somerset.

Further evidence on the history and merits of Minehead's late Victorian and Edwardian architectural legacy will be included in the forthcoming VII Volume of the Somerset Victoria County History and a forthcoming publication by Diana Crighton, author and architectural historian.

2. The Development of a Fashionable Resort

This section is largely taken from the Minehead Conservation Area Appraisal, Somerset County Council (2023), which in turn made extensive reference to 'Minehead: A New History' by Hilary Binding & Douglas Stevens (1977).

The town of Minehead lies at the convergence of upland, lowland and coast, and is comprised of three distinct settlements that relate to each of these landscapes: Church Town (around the 15th century church); Lower Town (around the mill); and Quay Town (focused on the harbour). These settlements grew together comparatively recently to form the town as it appears today.

By the late-eighteenth and early-nineteen century, Minehead was in a period decline. Soaring harbour costs, a decline in fisheries and the woollen trade, and a subsequent contracting population were capped by a series of fires in the 1790s that destroyed much of Lower Town. Further strife arose with its 'rotten borough' status in 1832 and the loss of the port's jurisdiction in 1834.

The town's salvation arose from a new fashion for sea bathing and the growing appreciation of the picturesque beauty of the Exmoor landscape. Minehead was to become an exclusive place for 'persons of fashion' to visit, aided by the arrival of the turnpike road and later the new railway.

In 1862 the railway had reached Williton and passengers could coach the last 8 miles. A campaign of municipal works by George Fownes Luttrell (1826-1910) from the 1860s, and his agent Thomas Ponsford (1811-1897), transformed the town, particularly Lower Town, making it an attractive place for visitors. A new town centre was laid out on the ruins of the old and new terraces and mansions constructed to the north and west. Gas street lighting came in 1869; a water company was formed in 1874; and most houses were connected to a network of sewers by 1878.

The completion of the railway to Minehead in 1874 had a dramatic effect. For the first time, day-trippers en masse had direct access to the town. In 1894 the Local Board of Health was succeeded by the new Urban District Council, under the chairmanship of Ponsford, and made further improvements to compete with other emerging resorts. This included the opening of the pier in 1901 for visiting steamers, the provision of electricity in 1903, and the establishment of pleasure gardens, a concert hall, and a cinema. The town was enjoying a building boom, with its population growing from 1,542 in 1851 to 2,782 by 1901.

At the turn of the century, George Luttrell continued the expansion of the town with the formation of the Minehead Land Company in 1899 for the construction of the 'North Hill Building Estate' on 40 acres of land on North Hill. New roads and sewers were laid out under the supervision of F.W. Roberts and building plots sold for the erection of villas and private boarding houses. At the same time building in other parts of Minehead was described as '*proceeding very fairly and would be proceeding at a rapid pace before long*' (West Somerset Free Press, 1900). The Land Company was dissolved in 1916 but by this time Minehead was an established holiday resort catering for middle class families arriving by train, and increasingly by car, and taking rooms in one of many boarding-houses. The town also welcomed an element of aristocracy and intelligentsia in its luxury hotels such as The Metropole.

3. Victorian and Edwardian Architects

The transformation of Minehead from a quiet harbour town to a smart resort was achieved from the 1870s to 1930s with the aid of a distinct 'school' of predominantly West Somerset architects, practicing from Minehead, Taunton or Bridgwater, and, for some, predominantly focused on the redevelopment of Minehead.

The key architects were:

- James Piers St Aubyn, 1815-1895 (professional career 1837-1885)
- Charles Henry Samson, 1837-1925 (professional career 1851-1923)
- Frederick William Roberts, 1859-1932 (professional career 1879-mid 1920s)
- William John Tamlyn, 1870-1933 (professional career 1897-1933)

With notable contributions from:

- Arthur Lincoln Cox, 1870-1912 (professional career c.1901-1912).
- William King Lucas, 1846-1912 (professional career c.1881-1912)
- Thomas Hawkes Andrew, 1859-1947 (professional career c.1889-c.1915)
- Edwin George Henry Gunn, 1878-1958 (professional career 1911-c.1950).

St. Aubyn's designs were instrumental in the Luttrell's rebuilding and expansion of Minehead. His work is noted for its strength, good detail and use of suitable materials. Among the many works attributed to him are: Blenheim Terrace (Nos. 7-17 Blenheim Road) (1871-73); the Public Hall (later Hospital) (1889-92); and the Esplanade Family Hotel (Metropole Court and the Hobby Horse) (1893).

Samson was appointed as the Dunster Estate Building Bailiff in 1868 and for 10 years worked closely with J.P. St. Aubyn and in his own right for the Luttrells. In 1878 he established a practice in Taunton and maintained close working connections with Minehead. Samson's style was solid, measured and assured, and rather reserved in comparison to that of the Edwardian architects to follow. His works included: the three villas of Hillbury (now Wyndham), Wyndcott and Highlands on Martlett Road (1879-1888); no. 10 The Parade (1875); and the Parish Church of St Michael the Archangel, Alcombe (1903).

In 1881 Samson was joined by Roberts, who went on to establish his own Taunton practice in 1892. Roberts' first connection with Minehead was a 1892 survey of its sewers for the Luttrell estate. This was the start of a long association with all aspect of the town's development, including new street layouts, the sea wall and pier (1900-01) and individual buildings in Lower Town and North Hill.

Tamlyn moved to Minehead in about 1895. He practiced as an architect and surveyor in the town for the next 37 years. His output was prolific and is easily recognisable in much of the early 20th century town. Julian Orbach identifies him as the '*principal architect of Edwardian Minehead*'. He developed a charming and contemporary vernacular revival style, most appropriate for a holiday resort, with playful banding of red brick, roughcast and tile-hung finishes, steep plain tiles rooves, and an extensive applications of intricate fretted joinery and applied timber framing. Oliver Davis aptly described his architecture as bringing '*a new gaiety and eclecticism to the more solid context of St Aubyn, Samson and Roberts*', although all stem from the same architectural tradition.¹ Tamlyn worked closely in partnership local brick and tile manufacturer and builder John Brown Marley, notably on Queen's Hall (1914). Other examples of Tamlyn's work include Cartref, Weirfield Road (1903-06) for John Marley, Eden Lodge (now Southlands), Northfield Road (1906-07) for himself, the terraces on the west of Tregonwell Road (1901-09), and nos. 6 and 8 Ballfield Road (c.1911).

The notable 'visiting' architects to work in Minehead were:²

- John Kingwell Cole (1860-1928) for a handful of Blenheim Road and North Hill villas
- John Foster (1830-80) and Joseph Wood (1822-1905) for the Methodist Chapel, The Avenue (1876) and for Cleveland, St Michael's Road (1877)
- Percy Richard Morley Horder (1870-1944) for the Arts and Crafts Periton Mead, Periton Road
- Frederick C.R. Palmer (1874-1934) for the Post Office, Parkhouse Road (1913)
- Richard Barry Parker (1867-1947) for Kildare Lodge, Townsend Road (1906), and Gordon Lodge, Hopcott Road (1904-06)

¹ Davis (2000), p. 4.

² Davis (2000), p. 2 to 7.

- Canon Alexander Joseph Cory Scoles (1844-1920) for the R.C. Church, Townsend Road and Priest's House (1896-9)
- George Edmund Street (1824-81) for St. Andrews Church (1880)
- Frank Alfred Tugwell (1861-1940) for the semi-detached Beverleigh and Farleigh, Beacon Road (1915).

4. Gazetteer of Villas

The following content is reproduced and edited from Russel Lillford's '*A Biographical Dictionary of Somerset Architects & Surveyors up to 1939*' (2023), unless referenced otherwise. Much of the information on Minehead's buildings was contributed by Oliver Davis and Julian Orbach, including research of the by-law plans held in the Somerset Archive at the Somerset Heritage Centre. A full transcription, with referenced sources, is available in the original publication, which is available online (see bibliography).

The gazetteer covers the transition from the fashionable later Victorian terrace houses, focused on the town centre and new pleasure gardens, to the Edwardian villas, boarding-houses and holiday homes built in the arcadian rural setting of North Hill and the town's periphery.

Table source annotations:

CAA	Minehead Conservation Area Appraisal (2002), Appendix: Buildings of Local Interest
DC	Research by Diana Crighton
JO	Unpublished research by Julian Orbach referenced in Lillford (2023)
Pev	Julian Orbach and Nikolaus Pevsner's <i>The Buildings of England, Somerset: South and West</i> (2014)
B&D	Research by Sally Bainbridge and Oliver Davies of the Minehead Conservation Society
OD	Unpublished papers by Oliver Davis on the 'Victorian and Edwardian Architects in Minehead' (c. 2000) (see bibliography)
RL	Russell Lillford's ' <i>A Biographical Dictionary of Somerset Architects & Surveyors up to 1939</i> ' (2023)
SAC	Somerset Archive Catalogue

Table status annotations:

Dem	Demolished
LHL Leg	Local Heritage List 'legacy' candidate
LHL Can	Local Heritage List nomination
NHLE	National Heritage List for England
CA	Part of a designated conservation area (<i>villas, townhouses and boarding-houses tables only</i>)

4.1 **St Aubyn**, James Piers 1815-1895 (professional career 1837-1885/95)

A west country architect. Born at the Vicarage, Powick, Worcestershire. Generally known as Piers, or J.P., he was educated at Penzance Grammar School, before articulated to the Gloucester architect **Thomas Fulljames** (1808-1874). Piers St Aubyn qualified as an architect in 1837 and worked chiefly out of London but kept an office in Devonport. He practiced primarily as a church architect covering the south-west of England, undertaking a number of new churches and even more restorations, including that of the family seat on St Michael's Mount, Cornwall.

In the early 1860's James Piers St Aubyn was retained as consultant architect to the Luttrell Estate at Dunster. As a consequence, he was responsible for much of the major developments in Minehead at that time. He was assisted, from 1868, by the newly appointed Estates Building Bailiff, **Charles Henry Samson**.

Pier St Aubyn was joined by **Henry John Wadling** (1844-1918), initially as his pupil in 1858 and later as a partner alongside J.P.'s nephew, **Francis William St Aubyn** (1856-1920). In 1885 Piers St Aubyn seems to have semi-retired but continued working occasional in Minehead until his death, aged 80, in 1885. On his death, Piers St Aubyn was described as the ... *'architect for more than three-fourths of the new houses in Minehead'*. He is buried on St Michael's Mount. Francis William St Aubyn and Henry Wadling continued the practice, which became St Aubyn & Wadling. [Lillford (2023) pp. 482-484]

Villas, townhouses and boarding-houses:	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Greenbank Villa, Minehead, attrib., completed 1870, builder John Pearse for his own occupation, later Carlton Hotel, dem. 2003	46534	●	CAA, MCS Bulletin 1, 2004, OD (2000) p. 2	Dem.
Blenheim Road, Nos. 7-17, Minehead, attrib., 1871-03	463537		Pev., p. 456, OD (2000) p. 2	LHL Leg CA
1-4 The Esplanade, 1874, attrib.	46546	●	CAA, Pev., p. 456 OD (2000) p. 2	LHL Leg CA
Coastguard Master's House (later Dawn House), The Esplanade, Minehead, 1877, builder John Henry Langdon	46531	●	CAA, Pev., p. 456, OD (2000) p. 2	LHL Leg CA
Coastguard Station Cottages, The Esplanade, (terrace of five houses backing onto North Road), 1877, builder John Henry Langdon	30091	●	CAA, NHLE, O Pev., p. 456, D (2000) p. 2	NHLE CA
Beach View, The Esplanade, built as part of the coastguard station complex, 1877, builder John Henry Langdon.	46535	●	CAA, Pev., p. 456, OD (2000) p. 2	LHL Leg CA
The Parade, Nos. 1-7, Minehead, attrib., but Charles Henry Samson may also have been involved, 1882	36093 36094	●	CAA, OD (2000) p. 2	LHL Leg CA
Clanville, Minehead, 1882, for George Luttrell's son-in-law H.A. Bosanquet. Dem.1969, though stable block (Clanville Lodge, Clanville Rd) and garden buildings remain extant		●	Pev., p. 454, OD (2000) p. 2 OD (nd) p.4	LHL Leg CA

<i>Villas, townhouses and boarding-houses:</i>	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Blair Lodge, Townsend Road, Minehead, for Dr T. Clark, attrib., 1884, now the Minehead First School and much extended	46526	●	CAA, Pev., p. 457, OD (2000) p. 2	LHL Leg CA
<i>In partnership with Francis St Aubyn and Henry Wadling:</i>				
Nos.12-14 The Parade, Minehead, attrib., c.1890	36091	●		CA
Kensington House, Nos. 16-20 The Parade, Minehead, (now W H Smiths and Boots) 1893	36092	●	CAA, Pev., p. 457, OD (2000) p. 2	LHL Leg CA
Nos. 13-21 The Parade, Minehead, 1893-96, Nos 13-17 built by James Hugh Hurford & John Burgess, Nos. 19-21 built by John Brown Marley	36083 36095	●	CAA, Pev., p. 454, OD (2000) p. 2, D/U/M/22/1/51	LHL Leg CA
Esplanade Family Hotel, Minehead, attrib., 1893, now the Metropole Court and Hobby Horse, builder John Henry Langdon	36082	●	CAA, Pev., p. 456, OD (2000) p. 2	LHL Leg CA
Wellington Temperance Hotel, Wellington Square, Minehead, attrib. with rebuild, 1893, builder John Henry Langdon	46519	●	CAA, Pev., p. 453, OD (2000) p. 2	LHL Leg CA
Nos. 15-17 The Avenue, Minehead (n.d.)		●		CA
Nos. 23-25 The Avenue, Minehead, 1895-1899	46540	●	CAA, Pev., p. 455, D/U/M/22/1/70	LHL Leg CA
Nos. 24 The Avenue, Minehead, 1895-99		●	D/U/M/22/1/70	CA
50-52, The Avenue, attrib.			CAA	LHL Leg CA
Nos. 54 (and 56) The Avenue, Minehead, 1895-1899, builder James Hugh Hurford	46538	●	CAA	LHL Leg CA
Part of Glenmore Road, 1898.			OD (2000) p. 2	CA

4.2 **Samson**, Charles Henry 1837-1925 (professional career 1851-1923)

Born at Headcorn, Kent. In 1851 the family moved to Folkestone, Kent, and Charles Samson became an articled pupil of local architect **James Henry Keeble** (1815-1892). Afterwards he worked for a period with a relative, **William Gibbons**, a builder-surveyor in Royston, Hertfordshire. In 1868 he was appointed Building Bailiff to the Luttrell Estate at Dunster, and assisted **Anthony Salvin** with his rebuilding and restoration works at the Castle. During his twenty-year tenure with the Estate, Samson was closely involved with the development projects for the nearby resort of Minehead, in conjunction with the Estates consultant architect **James Piers St. Aubyn**. In 1871 he was recorded as living in West Street, Dunster. Shortly after he married and 1878 set up an independent practice in Taunton but maintained close links with his former employer and colleagues and continued to work in Minehead. In the late 1880's he was joined in partnership by **Arthur Basil Cottam**, and they worked out of offices in both Taunton and Bridgwater. In 1906 Charles Samson, then aged sixty-nine, resigned from the partnership and left Taunton to live in Rugby. He finally retired in 1923, aged 86 and died two years later. [Lillford (2023), pp. 486-494, and Davies (nd) unpublished]

Villas, townhouses and boarding-houses:	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Belle Vue Villa, Alcombe, possibly designed for himself, after 1871		●	VCH, vol.12	Unknown
Beach Hotel (opened as the Railway Hotel but renamed by 1875), Minehead, 1872-74, builder John Henry Langdon	29813	●	CAA, Pev., p. 456, OD (2000) p. 2	LHL Leg CA
Park Street, Minehead, first half of the Street from 1873		●	OD (2000) p. 2	CA
No. 1 Park Street, from 1873 (former HSBC)		●	OD (2000) p. 2	NHLE CA
Holloway Street, Minehead, bottom end of the Street, c.1874		●		CA
Nos. 2-6 The Parade, Minehead, c.1875 (attributed)	36087 36088	●	OD (2000) p. 2	CA
Bond's (later Floyd's) Corner, The Parade, Minehead, attrib., 1877, builder John Henry Langdon	36089	●	Pev., p. 453,	LHL Leg CA
No. 10 The Parade, Minehead, (Clorley's Wine and Spirits Vaults), 1875	36090	●	CAA, Pev., p. 453, OD (nd) p. 3 OD (2000) p. 2	LHL Leg CA
Highlands, Martlet Road, Minehead, 1879, for H. Penn	46866	●	Pev., p. 455, OD (2000) p. 3	LHL Leg CA
Hillbury, Martlet Road, Minehead, 1880, for Dr T.J. Ollerhead, Local Health Officer, now Wyndham House		●	Pev., p. 455, OD 2000), p. 3, OD (nd), p. 3	LHL Leg CA
Wyndcote, Marlet Road, Minehead, 1888, possibly for H. Penn. Enlarged 1899, builder John Henry Langdon	46518	●	CAA, Pev., p. 455, OD (2000) p. 3	LHL Leg. CA

4.3 **Roberts**, Frederick William 1859-1932 (professional career 1879-mid 1920s)

Prolific Somerset architect and surveyor. Born in Manchester. By the age of twelve the family had moved to Torpoint, Cornwall. Educated in Devonport, Devon, before becoming an articled pupil of the Plymouth architect **Henry John Snell** (1843-1924). On completing his pupillage, Frederick Roberts remained with Henry Snell, serving as his assistant for two years. In 1881, aged 21, he moved to Taunton and was employed as an assistant in the office of **Charles Henry Samson & Arthur Basil Cottam**. Two years later he joined the Great Western Railway Company as a draughtsman, working under **Thomas Hammet**, the Divisional Engineer. He resigned from this post at the end of 1891 to set up an independent architectural practice in Taunton. He spent the next 30 years or so, working extensively in Minehead from an office in his home on Tregonwell Road.

Frederick Roberts was involved in all aspects of the development of Minehead, and in 1895 succeeded **James Piers St Aubyn** as consultant architect to the Luttrell Estate. From 1911 Frederick Roberts was joined in partnership by architect **John Henry Hilary Willman**. Frederick Roberts continued to undertake all the partners commissions in Minehead until the mid-1920's. He died on 18 July 1932, aged 73, at the family home, Northbrook Lodge on Staplegrove Road, Taunton. [Lillford (2023) pp. 474-478]

<i>Villas, townhouses and boarding-houses:</i>	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Nos. 1-3 Bancks Street, 1896		●	Pev., p. 453	LHL Leg CA
Nos. 6 & 8 Bancks Street, 1898 (and a further pair of houses), 1901		●		LHL Leg CA
Nos. 10, 12 & 14 Townsend Road, Minehead, row of three houses, 1896-97		●	D/U/M/22/1/20	CA
Nos. 1-3 Tregonwell Road, Minehead, 1899. Builder John Burgess & Sons.	36086	●	D/U/M/22/1/85 Viewed 06/06/2024	CA
York House (<i>now Stones Bar</i>), No. 46 & No. 48, The Avenue, Minehead (two houses), 1899, builder J. Burgess & Sons		●	OD (2000) p. 3	CA
Highnam (later Channel House/Church Path Hs), Weirfield Road, Minehead, for solicitor Thomas Joyce, 1901		●	D/U/M/22/1/102, Pev., p. 455, OD (2000), p. 5, OD (nd), p. 8	LHL Leg CA
11-13 Bancks Street with workshop and stables, Minehead, 1900-01, builder William Harrison		●	D/U/M/22/1/116 and 110	CA
Red Lion (Quay Inn), Quay Street, Minehead, rebuilt, 1901		●	D/U/M/22/1/131, Pev., p. 456, OD (2000) p. 3	LHL Leg CA
Martlet Road, Minehead, pair of houses on the North Hill estate, 1902-4, for John Henry Leather, a director of the Minehead Land Company (<i>likely Northleigh/High Hill/Marleys/Westmoreland</i>). <i>Stabled 1904 - SHC D/U/M/22/1/196</i>)		●	D/U/M/22/1/133, OD (2000) p. 6	CA
Henley Villa and Mount Royal, Weirfield Road, Minehead, for Taunton builder Alfred John Spiller, 1902		●	D/U/M/22/1/137 Pev., p. 455, OD (2000), p. 5, OD (nd), p. 8	LHL Leg CA
Belvedere and Wallen House, Nos. 1 & 3, Irnham Road, Minehead, 1903	Add	●	D/U/M/22/1/179, OD (2000) p. 3	CA
No. 11 Irnham Road, house and stables, 1903, builders Passmore & Derrick	RL	●	D/U/M/22/1/179 Viewed 21/06/24	CA
Lower Cleeve, The Parks, Minehead, Harold Cossins Esq, 1903. Builder J.W. Burt & Sons.	36035	●	D/U/M/22/1/180 Viewed 21/06/24, Pev., p. 457, B&D, p. 5,	LHL Leg
No. 3 The Parks, Minehead, house and business premises, 1906-7, for Mr J Webber (Florist). (<i>Built on the site of his nursery</i>).		●	B & O, p. 1, D/U/M/22/1/342	CA
Sherwood, King Edward Road, Minehead, 1913, for builder Wm Derrick	46799	●	D/U/M/22/1/495 Viewed 10/06/2024, DC	LHL Can
<i>In partnership with John Willman:</i>				
The Parks House, The Parks, Minehead, 1926, builders J.W. Burt & Sons.	36037	●	D/U/M/22/1/180, Pev., p. 457, B&D, p. 6	LHL Leg

4.4 Tamlyn, William John 1870-1933 (professional career 1897-1933)

Architect & surveyor. From the early 1800's members of the Tamlyn family had farmed near Stoke Pero on Exmoor. William John Tamlyn was born in 1870 a year after his parents moved to Stoke Rivers, some five miles north-east of Barnstable, North Devon. By the age of fifteen, he was an architect's assistant. He served his pupillage in a local architect's office with either **William Clement Oliver** (1833-1913), or **Frederick William Petter** (1862-1903). By 1897 Tamlyn had relocated to Minehead, from where he established an office at no. 3 The Parade and offered his services as an architect and surveyor.

Minehead was enjoying a building boom, and between 1900 and 1925 Tamlyn is thought to have designed well over 300 houses, with the vast majority being in Minehead. At the age of 45 he served in the First World War with the Royal Field Artillery before continuing his prodigious output, included houses and shops in The Avenue, The Parade, Bancks Street, Bampton Street, Friday Street, Tregonwell Road, Holloway Street, Blenheim Road, Martlet Road, North Hill, including the Northfield Estate, and out towards Alcombe, where he was still working in 1933 when he died. Tamlyn did not marry and lived at Eden Lodge (Southlands) on Northfield Road, which he designed in 1906. He is buried in Minehead Cemetery. [*Lillford (2023) pp. 553-557*]

<i>Villas, houses and boarding-houses:</i>	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Nos. 1 & 3 Holloway, Minehead, 1899			Pev., p. 454, OD (2000) p. 4	LHL Leg
Claremont, 85. Summerland Avenue, Minehead, c. 1900	46532	●	CAA	LHL Leg CA
Nos. 33-35, Blenheim Road, Minehead, 1899-1901, builder John Brown Marley of Minehead		●	D/U/M/22/1/75, Pev., p. 456	LHL Leg CA
Nos. 37-41, Blenheim Road, Minehead, 1899-1901, builder John Brown Marley of Minehead		●	D/U/M/22/1/94, Pev., p. 456	LHL Leg CA
Penrhyn (near Shute Farm), St Michael's Road, Minehead, 1900-01, for Minehead builder James Hugh Hurford		●	D/U/M/22/1/111, OD (2000), p. 5, OD (nd), p. 8	CA
Northmoor, North Hill Road, Minehead, 1902, for baker J Boddy. Stables and additions – see D/U/M/22/1/128 and 144.		●	Pev., p. 455, OD (2000), p. 5, OD (nd), p. 9	LHL Leg
The Beacon, Beacon Road, 1903-04, for the beach Hotel proprietor E.A. Saunders Esq. Stables 1904 – see D/U/M/22/1/198)			D/U/M/22/1/187, Pev., p. 454, OD (2000), p. 5	LHL Leg CA
Cartref, Weirfield Road, Minehead, 1905 for builder and brick manufacturer John Brown Marley	46529		D/U/M/22/1/258 Viewed 21/06/2024, Pev., p. 455, OD (2000), p. 5	LHL Leg CA
Everleigh & Waterfront and Harbour Court (formerly Minehead Bay Hotel), semi-detached boarding-houses on the Esplanade, Minehead, 1903-04, for John H. Leather Esq. Plan for four semi-detached boarding-houses in total, two not built.		●	D/U/M/22/1/172 Viewed 21/06/2024 (Alterations /586 and /635), OD (2000), p. 6	CA

Villas, houses and boarding-houses:	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Eden Lodge (now Southlands), Northfield Road, Minehead, 1906, his own house, built by John Brown Marley	46521	●	CAA, D/U/M/22/1/277 Viewed 21/06/2024, Pev., p. 455, OD (2000), p. 5, OD (nd), p. 8	LHL Leg CA
Northcliffe (later Rem-u-era, Rectory House Hotel, Northcliffe House), Northfield Road, 1906-7, for John Brown Marley. Served as the vicarage to St Michael's in the inter-war period.		●	8D/U/M/22/1/295 Viewed 21/06/2024, Pev., p. 455, OD (nd), p. 9	LHL Leg CA
Oakfield, Northfield Road, 1906-7, for John Brown Marley		●	Pev., p. 455	LHL Leg CA
Moorhaven & Beaconsfield, Pemswell Lane (Road), North Hill, Minehead, pair of semi-detached houses, 1909			D/U/M/22/1/310 Viewed 21/06/2024	CA
Nos. 1 & 2 Church Path, North Hill, Minehead, villa, 1909, builder John Brown Marley. <i>(Possible proposed attics 1910 - see D/U/M/22/1/334)</i>			D/U/M/22/1/389 Viewed 21/06/2024	CA
Nos. 1 & 2 Moorlands, pair of semi-detached houses, 1910			D/U/M/22/1/385 Viewed 21/06/2024	CA
8. Ballfield Road, Minehead, attributed, c. 1910	46536		CAA, Pev., p. 455	LHL Leg CA
6. Ballfield Road, Minehead, attributed, c. 1910			Pev., p. 455	LHL Leg CA
The east side of Ballfield Road (nos. 7, 9 11 & 13), Minehead, 1911			OD (2000), p. 5	
Field House, The Parks, Minehead, 1913, builder J.W. Burt & Sons	36033	●	B&D, p. 5	
Broadmeadows, The Parks, Minehead, 1913, builder J.W. Burt & Sons	36034	●	B&D, p. 5	
Danesbrook, St Michael's Road, Minehead, 1913-14. (Alterations D/U/M/22/1/551 and 562)		●	Pev., p. 455	LHL Leg CA
Walcott (now Bridgedale Cottage), Western Lane, Minehead, 1914, builder J.W. Burt & Sons	36048	●	B&D, p. 7	
Cranwell (later Hollytrees), The Parks, Minehead, 1914	36028	●	B&D, p. 5	
Brooklands, The Parks, Minehead			B&D, p. 2	
The Grosvenor Hotel (now Merlins Amusements), Warren Road, 1919			OD (2000), p. 4	
Auvergne (later Kelton Lodge), Whitecross Way, Minehead, 1914, builders J.W. Burt & Sons (1922 RL)	36057	●	B&D, p. 8, Brain, 2010, 161 and 162 illusts., and 165	
Park Vale (later Beechfield), The Parks, Minehead, for Frederick Ellis, chemist. Builder John Burgess & Sons, 1920 (dem. 2013)	36065	●	B&D, p. 2	Dem
Capri (later Wessex Lodge), Whitecross Way, Minehead, 1922		●	Brain, 2010, 161 and 162 illusts., and 165	

<i>Villas, houses and boarding-houses:</i>	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Redfields, Whitecross Way, Minehead, 1926 (1922 RL)	36060	●	Brain, 2010, 161 and 162 illusts., and 165	
St Valentines (now Hafod), No. 3, Millbridge Road, Minehead	Add.	●		

4.5 **Cox**, Arthur Lincoln 1870-1912 (professional career c.1901-1912)

Architect and surveyor. Born in Cannington. By 1881, following the death of his father, the family were living with his grandparents in Exeter. In 1891 Arthur Cox became an articled pupil in a local architect's office. Before 1901 he moved back to West Somerset and was practising as an architect in Minehead and by 1902 was living at Tresilian, Glenmoor Road. Four years later he married, and by 1910 the couple had moved to no.16 Tregonwell Road. He dies in 1912, aged 42, and is buried in Minehead cemetery. In a comparatively short career, all his known works are in Minehead. [*Lillford (2023) pp. 154-155*]

<i>Villas, houses and boarding-houses:</i>	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Marston Lodge, St Michael's Road, Minehead, 1901-02, for the estate agent Walter Williams		●	D/U/M/22/1/124 and 139, Pev., p. 455, OD (2000), p. 5, OD (nd), p. 8	LHL Leg CA
Hill House (formerly Beaconwood private hotel), Church Road, Minehead, 1902 and 1904, for the estate agent Walter Williams		●	D/U/M/22/1/154 and 221, OD (2000), p. 5, OD (nd), p. 8	CA
White Lodge, Whitegate Road, Minehead, 1905		●	D/U/M/22/1/232	CA
Cleeve Cottage, Parks Lane, Minehead, builder James Hurford, 1908	36046	●	B&D, p. 7, D/U/M/22/1/283	
Harefield (later Amberley House now Laurence House), Parks Lane, Minehead, 1908	36045	●	B&D, p. 7, D/U/M/22/1/313	
Nos. 17-19, Bancks Street, Minehead, pair of houses for James Hurford, 1909	46543	●	D/U/M/22/1/333, Pev., p. 453	LHL Leg CA
Convent of St Louis, Selborne Place, Minehead, rebuilt, c.1910-11	18665	●	CAA, Pev., p. 451 & 457	LHL Leg CA
Carbery, Western Lane, Minehead, for Hon. Esther Caroline Pomeroy, 1911	36049	●	B&D, p. 7, D/U/M/22/1/410	
Greenhaven (& The Little House), Whitegate Road, c. 1910	46527		CAA, D/U/M/22/1/676, Pev., p. 457	LHL Leg CA
Former Baptist Minister's House, 4. The Parks	36081		NHLE	NHLE CA

4.6 **Lucas**, William King 1846-1912 (professional career c.1881-1912)

Architect and surveyor. Born in Langport. William Lucas was an articled pupil for five years to **Maurice Davis**, a local builder-architect, and then moved to London to work in

the office of architect **Charles Henry Cooke** (c.1829-1888). In 1891 he was practising from offices in Chancery Lane and Highbury Hill. William Lucas died aged sixty-six in Church Stretton, Shropshire. [Lillford (2023) p. 357]

<i>Villas, houses and boarding-houses:</i>	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Irnham Lodge, Minehead, 1900-2, for builders C. & G. Matthews of London. Stables to Irnham Lodge, altered, 1900-3		●	D/U/NM/22/1/83, 141 and 167, Pev., p. 457, OD (2000), p. 7	LHL Leg CA
Harley House, No. 2 Irnham Road, Minehead, 1900-2, for builders C. & G. Matthews of London		●	D/U/NM/22/1/83, 141 and 167, Pev., p. 457, OD (2000), p. 7	LHL Leg CA
No. 4 Irnham Road, Minehead, 1900-2, builders C. & G. Matthews of London		●	D/U/NM/22/1/83, 141 and 167, Pev., p. 457, OD (2000), p. 7	LHL Leg CA
White Lodge and stables, Alcombe Road, Minehead for builders C. & G. Matthews, 1900		●	D/U/M/22/1/99	CA

4.7 **Andrew**, Thomas Hawkes 1859-1947 (professional career c.1889-c.1915)

Land agent and surveyor. Born in Exeter into a prominent Methodist family. He trained as a surveyor and land agent, first working in Manchester, then from 1889 joining the family surveying firm of Hawkes & Andrew in Williton and Minehead. From 1902 until 1905 Thomas Andrew was also joint Surveyor to Williton Rural District Council with **Alexander Durie Cook**. In 1906, he took into partnership fellow surveyor **Andrew Webber Hosegood**. [Lillford (2023) p. 700-701]

<i>Villas and boarding-houses:</i>	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Northfield (now Northfield Hotel), Northfield Road, Minehead, 1904 built for himself. Led to other villa commissions.			OD (2000), p. 9	
Ivythorne (later Hillcrest, Engadina & from 1932 The Benares Hotel), lodge and stables, Northfield Road, Minehead, for George Lindrea, 1904. Recognised by contemporaries as an outstandingly 'pretty house' and set within beautiful gardens. Demolished 2002, the first of the North Hill villas from the hitherto intact North Hill estate.		●	OD (2000), p. 6, OD (nd), p. 9, D/U/M/22/1/199 and 350	Dem.
<i>In partnership with Andrew Hosegood:</i>				
Northwood (and Grove Smith), Burgundy Road, North Hill, Minehead, Minehead, 1908, for Richard H. Holman Esq., Andrew's brother-in-law and a director of the Minehead Land Company and Minehead Pier Company. By 1910 Andrew's residence.		●	D/U/M/22/1/338 Viewed 21/06/2024, Pev., p. 455, OD (2000), p.4, OD (nd), p. 9	LHL Leg CA
Marlet House, Martlet Road (now Keates, Blakes, and Old Marlett House) 1910 for Richard H. Holman Esq., Andrew's brother-in-law and a director of the Minehead Land			OD (2000), p.6, OD (nd), p. 9	CA

<i>Villas and boarding-houses:</i>	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Company. Modern house in its former grounds.				
Metropole Hotel north cupola extension, Esplanade, Minehead	36082		OD (2000), p. 6	CA
Middle Moor, Moor Road, Minehead, 1912-13, for Lt. Col. Page Henderson.		RL	OD (2000), p.6, OD (nd), p. 9, D/U/M/22/1/470	CA
Brook House, The Parks, Minehead, 1914, builder J.W. Burt & Son	36061	RL	B&D, p. 1,	CA

4.8 **Gunn**, Edwin George Henry 1878-1958 (professional career 1911-c.1950)

Architect. Qualified 1911. Left London in 1934 to move to Minehead (no. 12 Park Street) and continued working until c. 1950 in partnership with locally born architect **Francis Fry**. The practice was eventually taken over by Minehead architects and surveyors, Albert Ewart Aston (1898-1955) and William Eric Marsden (1898-1966). [*Lillford 2023*, p. 257]

<i>Villas and boarding-houses:</i>	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Owl's Mead, Whitegate Road, Minehead, 1920		●	Pev., p. 4557, Modern House Index, Ref 14187	LHL Leg CA
Delabole Cottage, Ballfield Road, Minehead, 1926, for himself	46530	●	CAA, Pev., p. 457, UK Modern House Index, Ref 14186	LHL Leg CA
Chimney Cottage, Ballfield Road, Minehead, 1926	46533	●	CAA,	LHL Leg CA
Stone Steps, no. 11 Ballfield Road, Minehead, 1929		●		CA
Little Stoke (formerly Grixy), The Parks, Minehead, c.1930, builder Burgess & Son	36039	●	Pev., p. 457, B&D, p. 6, UK Modern House Index, Ref 14185	LHL Leg
Olton, Hopcott Close, Minehead, 1933 (possibly Whichewynd)		●	Penny, Some More Memoirs, 1999, p. 42	Unknown

4.9 **Tugwell**, Frank Alfred (1861-1940) (professional career c.1872-unknown)

London and Scarborough Architect. Articled at seventeen to local architect **John Hall** (1851-1914) and at the same time attended Scarborough School of Art. On completing his pupillage, he entered the London office of **Edward Robert Robson** (1835-1917). By 1881 he had returned to Scarborough and re-joined the practice of John Hall as his partner until dissolved in 1894. He continued to practise independently. Tugwell designed many seaside villas in Scarborough but is best remembered for his public buildings including the Savoy Theatre, London, with **Basil Ionides** (1884-1950), The Grand Opera, Harrogate, THE rebuilding of the Theatre Royal, York, alteration to the Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham, and the redevelopment of the Hippodrome in Scarborough. [*Lillford (2023)*, p. 578]

<i>Villas and boarding-houses:</i>	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Southleigh (now the Promenade Hotel), Blenheim Road, Minehead, 1905-6		●	Pev., p. 456	LHL Leg CA
Netherleigh (now Little Stoke), Blenheim Road, Minehead, 1905 for John M. Leather Esq., a director of the Minehead Land Company. New wing, 1914 – see D/U/M/22/1/538.		●	D/U/M/22/1/251 Viewed 21/06/2024, Pev., p. 456	LHL Leg CA
Normansleigh (now Blenheim Lodge), Blenheim Road, Minehead, 1905-6 for John M. Leather Esq., a director of the Minehead Land Company. (1911 census John Henry Leather was resident at Normansleigh/Blenheim Lodge)		●	D/U/M/22/1/254 Viewed 21/06/2024, Pev., p. 456, OD (2000), p. 8	LHL Leg CA
Beverleigh and Farleigh, a pair of semi-detached houses, Beacon Road, Minehead, 1906 for John M. Leather Esq., a director of the Minehead Land Company. (A second pair of semi-detached houses on the adjoining site, not built, D/U/M/24/1/271). Stable to Beverleigh added 1911 - see D/U/M/24/1/377.	46529	●	CAA, D/U/M/22/1/256 Viewed 21/06/2024, Pev., p. 454, OD (2000), p. 9,	LHL Leg CA

4.10 **Cole**, John Kingwell 1860-1928 (professional career c.1880-unknown)

The Cole family originally came from Wellington, but John Kingwell Cole was born at Islington in London. He was an articled pupil to the partnership of architect and social reformer **Nathan Solomon Joseph** (1834-1909) and **George Pearson** (1846-1934). Cole commenced his own practice in 1883, and until 1896 he was in partnership with **Edward Swann Mansergh** (1865-1906). He was declared bankrupt in 1908. From c.1912 he was joined in partnership with **Kenneth Wood** (c.1869-1943). Cole designed numerous, chapels, schools and houses, as well as the Maharaja's Palace near Simla in India. [Lillford (2023), p. 137]

<i>Villas and boarding-houses:</i>	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Ross Clere (now Rossclere), Beacon Road, Minehead, 1915 for Edgar Reed.		●	D/U/M/22/1/567, Pev., p. 454, OD (2000), p. 9	LHL Leg CA
The Avenue Hotel (No. 54 The Avenue) lounge extension, 1918.			OD (2000), p. 7	

4.11 **Donati**, Adrain William 1875-1956 (professional career c.1911-unknown)

Born in Clerkenwell, London. The family moved to Gloucestershire, and by 1901, to Bideford, North Devon. Adrian Donati was a manager of a builder's merchant and later studied architecture. By 1914 he was practising as an architect from offices in Minehead. He lived at nearby Holnicote and his work included commissions for the Holnicote Estate. Donati went on to be head of the School of Architecture, at the Royal West of England Academy in Bristol, which had opened in 1921 to train aspiring architects returning from the First World War. His son, **Edward William Donati** (1909-1985), studied architecture at the Academy from 1929 until 1933 and then practised with his father in Minehead. After the Second World War Edward Donati worked with

Taunton architect **Michael Torrens** (1911-1996). Commissions included buildings at Butlins, Minehead, Clark's shoe factory, Street, council housing for Watchet Urban District Council, and the bandstand in Blenheim Gardens, Minehead. [Lillford (2023), p. 184]

<i>Villas and boarding-houses:</i>	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Chalford (formerly known as Colinwood House), Minehead, 1920, builders J.W. Burt & Sons	36074	●	B&D, p. 3 MCS	
Banksia (formerly Amarna/Arama, Tregonia), Whitecross Lane, Minehead, for the artist James Miller-Marshall (1858-1935), 1923, builder W.E. Dewar of Minehead	36056	●	B&D, p. 8	
Amberley (formerly Overdale), The Parks, Minehead, 1928-34 [UK Modern House Index: Minehead, on line]	36066	●	B&D, p. 2 UK Modern House Index Ref 14133	
With Edward Doniti				
Pantiles, The Parks, Minehead, 1928-1934, builders Burgess & Sons [UK Modern House Index: Minehead, on line]	36077	●	B&D, p. 3, UK Modern House Index Ref 14137	

4.12 **Burt, Frederick Henry** (1885-1958)

Surveyor and Builder. Born in West Hatch, the fourth child of **John Worthy Burt** (see below) and Mary Anna Burt. In 1908 he married Laura Reed, and lived in the Castle Gate House, Dunster, where he was the assistant manager on the Luttrell Estate. Although involved with the family building business he seems to have largely practised as an independent surveyor and builder. In 1914 he became a Freemason of the Minehead Lodge, and by 1939 was living at 'Parklands' in the Town.

<i>Villas and boarding-houses:</i>	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Engadina or Engadine (later Merton Private Hotel, now Merton Place), Parks Lane, Minehead, attributed, 1919. Builder J.W. Burt & Sons. Extended 1924.	36041	●	B&D, p. 6	
High Croft, The Parks, Minehead, 1923, for Mrs Stoate, attributed. Builder J.W. Burt & Sons.	36036		B&D, p. 6, UK Modern House Index Ref: 14128	
Holside (formerly Winterthur), Whitecross Lane, Minehead for Reginald Floyd, 1926			B&D, p. 8	
Waitoa (now Glebe House), The Parks, Minehead, 1927, attributed. Builder J.W. Burt & Sons.	36073	●	B&D, p. 3 UK Modern House Index Ref: 20216	
The New House (now Ash Tree House), The Parks, Minehead, 1928. Builder J.W. Burt & Sons.	36067	●	B&D, p. 2, UK Modern House Index Ref: 20217	
Min Shan (now Southdale), The Parks, Minehead, 1929. Builder J.W. Burt & Sons.	36075	●	B&D, p. 3, UK Modern House Index Ref: 20218	

4.12 Miscellaneous

Villas and boarding-houses:	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Holloway House, 2 The Ball, Minehead, early-mid C19th century. Architect unknown.	46525		CAA	LHL Leg
Catorce (now Bhairab), 17 Manor Road, Alcombe, 1880s. Architect unknown.	46545		CAA	LHL Leg
Grove Place, 19 Manor Road, Alcombe, 1861, attrib. Edwin Palmer .	46542		CAA	LHL Leg
19-31 Blenheim Road, Minehead, 1896, builder John Brown Marley to his own design		●	D/U/M/22/1/5, Pev., p. 456	LHL Leg CA
Starhanger, Beacon Road, Minehead, by J.A. Piccaver of 7. Wood Hill, Northampton for W.G. B. Over Esq., 1910.			D/U/M/22/1/383	
Randall House (formerly Nutscale, Greedown, Grove Lodge, the Grove Nursing Home), Parks Lane, Minehead, ?. C. Birmingham, for himself, 1911. Builder J.W. Burt & Sons.			B&D, p. 7	
14 & 16 Ballfield Road, Minehead, c. 1920. Architect unknown.	46547		CAA	LHL Leg
Periton Mead, Periton Road, Minehead, circa 1915-22, Percy Morley Horder for C.S. Orwin	24515	●	Pev., p. 458, UK Modern House Index Ref: 11500	NHLE
Cranham Cottage (now Ambridge), The Parks, Minehead, 1930-31, Percy Ray Chanin and Frederick Stanley Thomas . Builder J.W. Burt & Sons.		●	UK Modern House Index Ref: 14133	
Huntspill, The Parks, Minehead, 1931, Percy Ray Chanin and Frederick Stanley Thomas .	36040		B&D, p. 6, UK Modern House Index Ref: 20215	

5. Builders & Developers

5.1 Ponsford, Thomas 1811-1897

Minehead solicitor and steward for George Fownes Luttrell, Esq. Thomas Ponsford held numerous public, charitable and commercial positions, including Chairman of the Minehead Urban District Council, guardian and waywarden for the parochial parish of Minehead, and a director of the Minehead Waterworks Company and the Gas Light and Coke Company. He later resided at no. 8 The Avenue, Minehead. He invested heavily in the infrastructure and facilities of the town, including blocks of housing, the Public Hall (1889-92, later the hospital), Wellington Temperance Hotel (1893) the Esplanade Family Hote (1893, later the Metropole) terraces in Selbourne Place (1892), Holloway Street (c.1894) and Summerland Road (1892-94). [Davies (2000), p. 5]

On his death, he was described at the Town Council meeting as having been the 'backbone in making Minehead what it is.' [West Somerset Free Press, 28/08/1897, p. 7]

5.2 Holman, Richard Haswell 1859-1925

A wealthy shipowner from Topsham. Holman bought the Esplanade Hotel from Ponsford's executors in 1898 and relaunched it as the Hôtel Métropole. In 1899 he formed the Pier Company and the Minehead Land Company, leasing 40 acres of land on North Hill from the Luttrell Estate to promote villa developments. He was joined by John Leather in these ventures.

The Minehead Land Company divided 14 of the 40 acres into 23 building plots and commissioned Roberts to lay out the new Northfield Road. A second instalment of plots followed in 1910 before the company ceased on the death of John Leather in 1912. [Davis (2000), p. 5]

5.3 **Leather**, John Henry Leather 1842-1912

Mechanical Engineer. Moved to Minehead in 1901 from Cleckheaton in Yorkshire, but retained connections as Chair of Directors for the engineering company Messrs. P. and C. Garnett Ltd. His obituary of 1912 in the West Somerset Free Press describes his energetic involvement with business ventures, civic duties, and the rapid development of his new residence.

Leather served one term on the Urban District Council, was a representative for Minehead on the Williton Board of Guardians, and contributed to numerous other charitably committees and associations.

Leather was one of the promoters and directors of the Pier Company, the Minehead Land Company, the Hôtel Métropole Company, and Minehead Laundry Company. He established the Minehead Electric Supply Company Ltd., bringing light to public buildings, churches, business, new homes and the streets of the town. He was also a house builder, starting in 1905 with the three villas at the end of Blenheim Road (Southleigh, Netherleigh, and Normansleigh), at one time living in Southleigh and finally at Normansleigh. These were three of about 20 good houses he built, including on plots purchased from the Land Company on North Hill. Leather's Yorkshire connections may explain his engagement of the Scarborough architect F.A. Tugwell. [West Somerset Free Press, 27/01/1912, p. 8]

5.4 **Langdon**, John Henry 1849-1904

Builder. Born in Woodford, Minehead, the second child of carpenter John Langdon and his wife Harriett Burge. In 1872 he married Emma Morgan Davis, and by 1881 they were living at Alcombe where Langdon was working as a carpenter. By 1892 he was also the inn keeper of the Red Lion Inn, Quay Street. He was responsible for the construction of many of the key late 19th century buildings for **St Aubyn** and **Samson**: the Beach Hotel (1874); the coastguard Master's house and cottages (1876); Wyndcote, Marlet Road (1888); the Esplanade Family Hotel (1893); and the rebuilding of the Wellington Hotel (1893). [Lillford (2023), p. 341-342]

5.5 **Messrs J. Burgess & Sons**

Builders. John Burgess (1859-1933) was born in Porlock, the son of John Burgess, a shoe-maker, and his wife Sarah German. He was apprenticed to the stonemason of William Brown & Company in Bristol. In 1880 he married Mary Jane Floyd and returned to work in west Somerset including on buildings designed by **St Aubyn**. He joined in partnership with **James Hugh Hurford**, before setting up in business as Burgess & Sons, with his sons, **Sidney John George Burgess** and **William Arthur Burgess**.

John Burgess was chairman of Minehead Urban District Council for 14 years. His developments included blocks of houses on Glenmore Road, Summerland Avenue, Tregonwell Road and in Alcombe. [Lillford (2023), p. 98]

5.6 **Marley**, John Brown 1864-1956

Builder and brick and tile manufacturer. Born in Porlock in 1864, the son of master mariner Thomas Edwin Marley, and his wife Elizabeth Margaret Brown. His early career was as a watch-makers apprentice. In 1891 he was married and running a watchmaker and jeweller business. A few years later he was joined by his brother, **Samual Brown Marley**, a cabinet-maker, for a complete change of business. In 1897 the brothers built the Victoria Brick and Tile Works at Alcombe and were trading as builders and brick and tile manufacturers. The brick works being in response to a shortage of local supply. [Lillford (2023), p. 369]

Marleys early building work included nos. 19-21 The Parade (1895). Shortly afterward he extended the block into Blenheim Road (1896) to his own design. He may also have designed the terrace he built a little further along Blenheim Road, nos. 19-31 Blenheim Road (1896). His development of nos. 33-41 Blenheim Road (1901) was at the start of a strong working relationship with architect **W.J. Tamlyn**. Tamlyn designed Marley's new home of Cartref (1905) and his three villas on Northfield Road (1906), with Eden Lodge being Tamlyn's new home. The Brickworks continued until 1947. [Lillford (2023), p. 369]

Villas and boarding-houses:	HER	RL Ref.	SAC & other Ref	Status
Nos.1-5 Blenheim Road, Minehead			OD (2000), p. 7	CA
19-31 Blenheim Road, Minehead, 1896, builder John Brown Marley to his own design		●	D/U/M/22/1/5, Pev., p. 456, OD (2000), p. 7	LHL Leg CA

5.7 **Messrs Passmore & Derrick**

Charles Passmore (1855-1931) was born in Minehead, the fourth child of John Horne Passmore, a tailor, and his wife Jane Rawle. By 1901 he was working as a builder and in partnership with William Derrick. [Lillford (2023), p. 414]

William Derrick (1868-1945) was born at Ash, near Martock, the eldest child of William Derrick, a teasle merchant, and his wife Elizabeth Tucker. In 1881 he was living with his grandparents in North Curry, where he later trained as a wheelwright. By 1894 he was married to Mary Ann Webber, working as a builder in Minehead, and a partner of local builder Charles Passmore. By 1910 the family were living in Ash Lodge, Irnham Road, Minehead. [Lillford (2023), p. 178-179]

The building partnership of Passmore & Derrick constructed numerous blocks of cottages and houses to the designs of **Roberts**, **Tamlyn** and **Cox** including on Summerland Avenue (1899), Bampton Street (1904), Inham Road (1906-11), King Edward Road (1908), and Park Lane (1914). The one villa of note is Sherwood, King Edward Road (1913).

5.8 Messrs J. W. Burt & Sons

One of Somerset's long running building firms. John Worthy Burt (1852-1918) and his sons Arthur John Burt (1878-1946), Edwin George Burt (1882-1944) all builders, and Frederick Henry (1885-1958) builder and surveyor.

John Worthy Burt, 1852-1918, was born in the village of Thurlbear, the third son of Worthy Burt, a butcher and farmer, and his wife Mary Ann Williams. In 1873 he married Mary Anna Small. Initially, he helped on the family farm but by 1901 he was working as a stone mason from nearby Stoke St Mary, undertaking much of his early work for the local Portman Estate.

By about 1903, he began trading as a builder in Minehead and by 1906/07 had built a new workshop at Cher Steep (currently occupied by Charles Sweetland & Sons, Builders), and is recorded as living two doors down at Netherclay House (no. 117) in 1910. On his death in 1918 his two eldest sons, Arthur Burt and Edwin Burt continued the family building business until their deaths in the 1940's.

Arthur Burt (1878-1946) was born in Bristol, the eldest child of John Worthy and Mary Anna Burt. In 1899 he married Lydia Martha Truness, and the couple lived in Taunton, where he worked as a journeyman carpenter and wheelwright. By 1910 they were also living at Wycliffe (no. 127) in the same terrace as his father on Cher Steep, Minehead.

Edwin Burt (1882-1944) was born in Rowbarton, Taunton, and like his father, trained as a mason and worked from Stoke St Michael. In 1906 he married Mabel Phillips and lived in Glenmore Road, Minehead. [Lillford (2023), pp. 100-101]

Other members of the family continued the firm until 2001. [*Burt (2024) and Lillford (2023), p. 5, 99-101*]

John Burt's earliest work was the construction of the eleven cottages on the east side of Bampton Street, now nos. 115-135 Cher, to a design by **F.W. Roberts**, in which he and his son, Arthur, were to live. To the immediate north he built the new workshop in 1906/07, to a design by **A.J. Cox**.

Another early build was Lower Cleeve house, also designed by **Roberts** in 1903. The early link with Roberts could have been from a Taunton connection. J.W. Burt & Sons were to build many of the Edwardian villas that were to follow Lower Cleeve either side of The Parks, starting with Brooke House in 1914. The firm was also part of the consortium that laid out Parkhouse Road, Lower Park, parts of West Park and South Park from 1929. [*Bainbridge and Davies (2004), Burt (2024), and Lillford (2023)*]

Nicholas Wall
South West Heritage Trust
28th April 2025

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Appendix A: Unidentified Villas, Houses and Boarding-Houses

ST AUBYN, James Piers 1815-1895 (professional career 1837-1885/95)

	Source	SAC Ref
Glenmore Road, Minehead, two villas, 1898 builder William Harrison	RL	MCS

ROBERTS, Frederick William (1859-1932)

	Source	SAC Ref
Glenmore Road, Minehead, six houses, 1897, builder John Burgess & Sons	RL	MCS
Tregonwell Road, laid out street and No1, (behind York House Hotel), Minehead, house for himself and his office, 1899-1910		(D/U/M/22/1/85)
Tregonwell Road, Minehead, two villas, 1899, builder John Burgess	MCS	MCS
Tregonwell Road, Minehead, four semi-detached houses, 1904, builder J. Burgess	RL	D/U/M/22/1/202
Summerland Avenue, Minehead, block of two houses, 1904, builder John Brown Marley	RL	D/U/M/22/1/210
Glenmore Road, Minehead, six houses, 1905, builder J.W. Burt & Sons	RL	D/U/M/22/1/229
King Edward Road, Minehead, six pairs of semi-detached houses, 1908, builders Passmore & Derrick	RL	D/U/M/22/1/285
Tregonwell Road, Minehead, houses, 1909, builder John Brown Marley	RL	MCS

TAMLYN, William John (1870-1933)

	Source	SAC Ref
Alcombe Road, Minehead, three houses, 1896	RL	MCS
Nos. 105-133 Bampton Street, Minehead, for J. Phillips, 1897		OD (2000), p. 3
Marlet Road (now St Michael's Road), Minehead, three villas near Shute Farm, 1899 for James Hurford (<i>could include nos. 6 & 8 St Michael's Road</i>)	RL	D/U/M/22/1/60
Summerland Avenue, Minehead, ten houses for Charles Passmore, 1899		D/U/M/22/1/53
Summerland Avenue, Minehead, villa for builder J. Burgess, 1899	RL	MCS
Friday Street, Minehead, shop & residential blocks, 1901, 1906.		OD (2000), p. 4
Tregonwell Road, Minehead, houses, 1901-09		OD (2000), p. 4
Northfield Road, Minehead, detached house and a pair of detached houses, 1906-7, builder John Brown Marley (<i>Possibly Eden Lodge, Rem-u-era, and Oakfield</i>)	RL	D/U/M/22/1/238, 243 and 266
Irnham Road, Minehead, pair of semi-detached houses, 1906-09, builders Passmore & Derrick	RL	D/U/M/22/1/264
North Hill estate, Minehead, detached house, 1906	RL	D/U/M/22/1/277
Alcombe Road, Minehead, two detached houses, 1910	RL	D/U/M/22/1/399
Ballfield Road, Minehead, group of houses e. side, 1911	RL	OD
Parks Lane, Minehead, eleven houses, 1914, builder Charles Passmore	RL	D/U/M/22/1/559
Queens Road, Minehead, pair of houses, 1914 and 1922	RL	D/U/M/22/1/558
Glenmore Road, Minehead, house, 1916, builder Wm. Derrick	RL	D/U/M/22/1/583

	Source	SAC Ref
The Grosvenor Hotel, The Esplanade, Minehead, 1919	RL	MCS
Middlecombe Water, Minehead, bungalow, 1919	RL	D/U/M/22/1/616
Queens Road, Minehead, pair of semi-detached houses, 1920, builder W.E. Dewar	RL	D/U/M/22/1/634
Ponsford Road / Pemsford Road, Minehead, two houses, 1922	RL	D/U/M/22/1/645
Hopcott, Periton Road, Minehead, house on the corner of Parkhouse Road, 1925 (<i>possibly White Lodge</i>)	RL	D/U/M/22/1/677
Ponsford Road and King George Road, Minehead, house, 1927	RL	D/U/M/22/1/689
Lower Moor Road, Minehead, pair of semi-detached houses, 1927, dairy, 1932	RL	D/U/M/22/1/695 and 730

COX, Arthur Lincoln (1870-1912)

	Source	SAC Ref
Periton Road, Minehead, house and stables, 1901	RL	D/U/M/22/1/100
Alcombe Road, Minehead, House and stable, 1905	RL	D/U/M/22/1/232
Irnham Road, Minehead, semi-detached houses and stables, 1905 and 1906	RL	D/U/M/22/1/252, 269 and 391
Summerland Avenue, Minehead, houses for James Hurford, 1907	RL	D/U/M/22/1/340]
Alcombe Road, Minehead, detached house, 1909	RL	D/U/M/22/1/304
New Road off Tregonwell Road, Minehead, two houses for J.W. Burt & Sons	RL	D/U/M/22/1/362
Tregonwell Road, Minehead, detached house, 1910	RL	D/U/M/22/1/401
Summerlands Avenue, Minehead, two semi-detached houses, 1911	RL	D/U/M/22/1/380
Alcombe Road, Minehead, detached house for James Hurford, 1911	RL	D/U/M/22/1/430
Queens Road, Minehead, detached house for J.W. Burt & Sons, 1911	RL	D/U/M/22/1/417
Irnham Road, Minehead, detached houses for Charles Passmore, 1911	RL	D/U/M/22/1/422
Alexandra Road, Minehead, two detached houses and two semi-detached houses, 1911	RL	D/U/M/22/1/420 and 423
Alcombe Road, Minehead, detached house, 1911	RL	D/U/M/22/1/430
Pemswell Lane, Minehead, houses, 1911	RL	D/U/M/22/1/432
Alcombe Road, Minehead, detached house, 1912	RL	D/U/M/22/1/452
Summerland Avenue, Minehead, pair of semi-detached houses, 1912	RL	D/U/M/22/1/441]

TUGWELL, Frank Alfred (1861-1940)

	Source	SAC Ref
Detached house, North Hill, Minehead, 1910, for John H. Leather, a director of the Minehead Land Company.	RL	D/U/M/22/1/318
Large detached house with outbuildings, Minehead, for Charles E. Coles, 1908	RL	D/U/M/22/1/348

MISCELLANEOUS & UNKNOWN

	Source	SAC Ref
Plan of Villas, Summerland Avenue, 1903, for Mr J Cornelius, Teignmouth	SAC	D/U/M/22/1/175 Viewed 21/06/2024

Appendix B: Cottages and Terraces

SAMSON, Charles Henry (1837-1925)

	HER	Source	Status
Station Cottages, Minehead, 1876, builder John Henry Langdon		RL, OD (2000), p. 2	
<i>In partnership with Arthur Basil Cottam:</i>			
Market House Inn and cottage, Frog Street (now the Queens Head and Holloway Street), Minehead, 1894.		RL	

ROBERTS, Frederick William (1859-1932)

	HER	Source	Status
The Butts, Selbourne Place, Minehead, eight houses, 1896, builder James Hurford (<i>The Butts being former archery ground name of the street – likely part of north side row</i>)		RL	
Alcombe Road, Minehead, two groups of six houses, 1896-97, builder John Burgess (<i>likely south side of east end</i>)		RL	
Church Street, Minehead, pair of cottages near church, 1902 (<i>potentially Knapp Cottage / Little Auboum?</i>)		RL	
Quay Street, Minehead, four cottages, 1902 (<i>possibly north end</i>)		RL	
Bampton Street, Minehead, eleven cottages, 1903, builders J.W. Burt (<i>possibly nos. 115-135 Cher</i>) SAC Ref: D/U/m/22/1/177		RL	
West Street, Minehead, four cottages, 1904, ten cottages (Pit Park estate)-builder Francis Philips (<i>possibly nos. 2-20 etc.</i>)		RL	
Cher Steep, Minehead, eight cottages, 1906, F. Parker & Sons (<i>likely nos. 94-108</i>)		RL	
Higher Town, Minehead, pair of cottages, 1907, builder John Brown Marley		RL	
Church Street, Minehead, pair of cottages, 1910.		RL	
<i>In partnership with John Willman:</i>			
Church Street, Minehead, nine cottages, 1924 (<i>likely nos. 1-9 & 2-8 Orchard Rd</i>)		RL	

TAMLIN, William John (1870-1933)

	HER	Source	Status
Nos. 105-113 Bampton Street, Minehead, terrace of six cottages for builder J. Philips, 1896-97		RL	
Quay West, Minehead, two cottages near Gas Works, 1899		RL	
Summerland Avenue, Minehead, ten houses for Charles Passmore, 1899 (<i>possibly nos. 1-19</i>)		RL	
Bampton Street, Minehead, twelve cottages for builder James Hugh Hurford, 1899 (<i>Possibly nos. 56-78</i>)		RL	
Alcombe Road, Minehead, eight cottages, 1901, builder John Brown Marley		RL	

	HER	Source	Status
Tregonwell Road, Minehead, shops with flats over and stables along most of the road, 1901-9, builders John Brown Marley, John Burgess and J.W. Burt & Sons		RL	
Summerland Road, Minehead, two cottages, 1901		RL	
Bampton Street, Minehead, six cottages, 1901, builders Passmore & Derrick		RL	
Friday Street, Minehead, two shops with flats over, 1901 and 1909		RL	
Friday Street, Minehead, two shops, 1903		RL	
Quay Lane (near Electric Light Works), Minehead, two cottages, 1903		RL	
Alcombe Road, Minehead, pair of semi-detached houses, 1904		RL	
Bampton Street, Minehead, five cottages, 1904, builders Passmore & Derrick		RL	
Summerland Avenue, Minehead, block of five houses, 1904, stables, 1906, builder John Brown Marley (<i>Possibly nos. 80-88</i>)		RL	
Dugdale Street, Minehead, eight cottages, 1907-08, builders Passmore & Derrick (<i>Possibly nos. 2-16</i>)		RL	
Higher Town, Minehead, cottage and stables, 1912		RL	
Friday Street, Minehead, house, shop and shopfront, 1919		RL	
Glenmore Road and Ponsford Road, Minehead, ten houses, 1920, builder John Burgess & Sons (<i>possibly nos. 1-7 Ponsford Rd & 47-57 Glenmore Rd</i>)		RL	

COX, Arthur Lincoln (1870-1912)

	HER	Source	Status
Summerland Avenue, The Mews, Minehead, 1902 and 1906		RL	
Summerland Avenue, Minehead, eight houses, 1903 and 1904, for James Hurford		RL	
Pit Park estate, Minehead, fourteen cottages, 1905, builders Passmore & Derrick		RL	
Irnham Road, Minehead, eight terraced houses, 1911		RL	

Messrs J. W. Burt & Sons (1903-1940s)

	HER	Source	Status
Park Lane, Minehead, terrace of five houses, 1914. <i>Possibly Rosemount to Raleigh</i>		RL	
Park Lane, Minehead, two further houses 1920. <i>Possibly Parkview and adjacent house</i>		RL	

Appendix C: Other Significant Minehead Works

ST AUBYN, James Piers (1815-1895)

	HER	Source	Status
Parochial School with Master's House, Holloway/Middle Street, Minehead, 1866-67	31868	Pev, OD (2000), p. 2	LHL Leg
No. 8 The Parade, Minehead (formerly Stuckey's Bank), 1868-69	30067	NHLE, OD (2000), p. 6	Listed
Minehead Railway Station, attributed, 1874	PRN		
Setting out of The Avenue, Minehead, from 1879			
St Michael, Minehead, restoration, 1883-86.	33769	NHLE	Listed
<i>In partnership with Francis St Aubyn and Henry Wadling:</i>	HER		
Public Hall and town assembly room, The Avenue, Minehead, 1888-89, later a cinema before conversion to hospital	57142	NHLE	Listed

SAMSON, Charles Henry (1837-1925)

	HER	Source	Status
Church of St Michael the Archangel, Alcombe, 1903	PRN add	OD (2000), p. 3	Add

ROBERTS, Frederick William (1859-1932)

	HER	Source	Status
Bancks Street, Minehead, plans for the layout of the street and sewer for the Luttrell Estate, 1896			
Young Men's Institute (Church Institute), Bancks Street, Minehead, 1895, opened 1896, builder John Burgess & Sons	36085		
Masonic Hall, Bancks Street, Minehead, 1896, builder John Burgess, carving on pediment by William Giles, new Lodge room added at the rear, 1923	36084	OD (2000), p. 3	
Summerland Avenue, Minehead, plans for new street, 1898			
Northfield Road, Minehead, laid out street, 1900			
Weirfield Road, Minehead, laid out street, 1900			
The Old Hall, Bancks Street, Minehead, 1900, builder William Harrison (<i>identify – rear of The Quaker Meeting Hs</i>)	Rear of 37356?		
Irnham Street, laid out street from Summerland Street to Selbourne Place, 1900			
New sea wall, Esplanade, Minehead, 1900		OD (2000), p. 3	
Quay Lane, The Esplanade, North Road and Summerland Avenue, Minehead, sewers, 1900-02			
Pier, Minehead, sea-wall and lay-out of pier with engineer John James Webster, 1900-01, dem. 1940	35506 Expand.	OD (2000), p. 3	
North Hill estate, Minehead, layout plans for building plots, 1901			

	HER	Source	Status
North Road, Minehead, sawmills, timber sheds, stables and offices for timber merchant Kent Ridler, 1902	North part of 27810?		
Baptist Chapel enlargement, the Parks, 1902	30111	OD (2000), p. 3	
Quaker Meeting House, Bancks Street, Minehead, 1903, builder William Harrison, formerly the Plymouth Brethren Meeting Room	37356		
United Reform Chapel (formerly the Congregational Chapel Sunday School), Bancks Street, Minehead, 1903-4, builders F. Parker and Sons	18662	Pev., p. 453	LHL Leg.
Friday Street, Minehead, upper part of the Street, 1904-9 (<i>possibly nos. 23-29</i>)	Identify.		
Friday Street, Minehead, pair of shops and houses, 1904, three shops, 1905, builders F. Parker & Sons	Identify.		
Congregational Sunday School (later United Reform Church), Bancks Street, Minehead, 1904	18662	OD (2000), p. 3	
Bampton Street, Minehead, laid out Pit Park estate, 1905 (<i>Dugdale Street and West Street - check</i>)			
Whitegate Road, plan for proposed new road between Alcombe Road & Porlock Road, also new sewer, 1905		D/U/M/22/1/260 Viewed 21/06/24	
Friday Street, No.24, Minehead, three shops and monumental masonry, 1906-07			
Quirke Street, Minehead, laid out street, 1907			
<i>In partnership with John Willman:</i>			
War Memorial, Martlett Road and St Michaels Road, Minehead, 1921	18473 Expand.	NHLE, OD (2000), p. 3	Listed
Newcombe's West Somerset Stores and Restaurant, corner of The Avenue/Blenheim Road, Minehead, 1923-24, (<i>later The Owls Roost Cafe / Exmoor Country Interiors</i>) (<i>check as map suggest being earlier</i>)		OD (2000), p. 3	
Village Hall, Alcombe Road, Minehead, 1925-26		Pev., p. 457	LHL Leg.

TAMLYN, William John (1870-1933)

	HER	Source	Status
Diamond Jubilee Memorial Fountain, The Avenue, Minehead, 1897, dem. c.1935		RL, OD (2000), p. 3	
Infants School, Middle Street/Holloway Street, Minehead, 1898-99	18666	RL, OD (2000), p. 4	
R.C. Convent of the Sisters of Charity, Minehead, 1899, opened 1900, largely dem. 1993	18665	RL,	Dem.
Post Office, Park Street, Minehead, alterations to the rear of the building, 1900		RL	
Market House and Council Chamber, The Parade, Minehead, 1900-2, won competition in 1900, builders Passmore & Derrick	30108	RL, Pev, NHLE, OD (2000), p. 4	Listed
Recreation Ground Pavilion, Irnham Road, Minehead, 1901	Dem.	RL, OD (2000), p. 4	Dem.
Electricity Station, Quay Lane, Minehead, 1902, addition, 1905, part demolished. Later Drill Hall, skating rink and Minehead Brotherhood Hall.		RL, OD (2000), p. 4	

	HER	Source	Status
Victoria Memorial Reading Room, Bancks Street, Minehead, 1905, builders Passmore and Derrick, now the Royal British Legion	46523	RL, Pev., p. 453, OD (2000), p. 6	LHL Leg.
Blenheim Back Road, stables, 1908 (<i>D/U/m/22/1/285</i>)		RL	
Central Hall (former repository and now The Courtyard flats), No. 15 Bancks Street, Minehead, 1910		RL, OD (2000), p. 4	
Bagley's Bakery, Park Terrace, Minehead, c.1910 (<i>nos. 1-3</i>)		RL	
Baptist Chapel School, The Parks, Minehead, c.1912 and 1920		RL	
Shop, No. 1 The Parks, Minehead, for Mrs Woodward, 1914. On former garden of Hope Villa, Parks Lane.	16440 (part)	B&D, p 3	
Queen's Hall, Minehead, 1913-15, builders John Brown & Samuel Brown Marley, the owners of the local brickworks, plans for extension, 1915	46524	RL, Pev., p. 456, OD (2000), p. 4	LHL Leg.
Hardey's Central Garage, The Avenue, Minehead, 1915-19, dem.	Dem.	RL, OD (2000), p. 4	Dem.
Strand Café, Minehead, 1913-15		RL, Pev., p. 456 OD (2000), p. 4	
Friday Street, Minehead, booking-office, 1919	Identify.	RL	
Church Street, Minehead, shop and premises, 1919	Identify.	RL	
The Esplanade, Minehead, bandstand, 1921	46528	RL	LHL Leg
Minehead & West Somerset (Luttrell Memorial), The Avenue, Minehead Hospital conversion with major 1921, nurse's quarters, 1922-23, additional rooms, 1926 and 1929, closed 2011	57142	RL, Pev., p. 455, NHLE	NHLE
Meeting Hall, Bancks Street, Minehead, 1926 and 1932 (possibly alterations to 9 Banck St - 37356)	37356	37356	

COX, Arthur Lincoln (1870-1912)

	HER	Source	Status
R.C. Church sanctuary ceiling painting 1896	18664	RL	
Elgin Tower, North Hill, Minehead, stable, 1904		RL	
Cher Steep, Minehead, stable and workshop, 1906, builder J.W. Burt & Sons		RL	
St Louis Convent extension, Selbourne Place, 1911	18665	OD (2000), p. 5	
Summerland Avenue, The Mews, Minehead, offices, 1912		RL	

ANDREW, Thomas Hawkes (1859-1947)

	HER	Source	Status
Church Hall (formerly the Gymnasium), Bancks Street, Minehead, 1910-11		RL, OD (2000), p. 6	
Council School for boys, Watery Lane, Minehead, 1912, builder Henry W. Pollard & Son.		RL	

GUNN, Edwin George Henry (1878-1958)

<i>Other significant Minehead works:</i>	HER	Source	Status
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United Reform Chapel Hall, Bancks Street, Minehead, 1936.		RL	
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