

Tailors Drapers and Dressmakers

Stickney had many Tailors and Drapers throughout the history of the village. Most of the Tailors worked from their own homes although some of the Drapers did have shops sometimes combined with a Grocery store.

George Simpson was a Tailor and Draper who lived and worked from the place that is now Kings Garage. Born in 1819 in Stickney, he married Susan Ingamalls, who was the daughter of his step mother. He was working on his own account by the time he was twenty . He had an apprentice, Francis Hides, an errand boy and also a female house servant by the early 1850s. When George died in the June of 1887 Susan continued to run the shop with her grand daughter Charlotte, as a Drapers and Grocers store until she died at the age of eighty two in 1901.

James Simpson was two years younger than George, and moved back into the village around 1857. Mary his wife was from Leake and she died three years later, leaving James to bring up six children. He worked as a Tailor and lived in a terraced house opposite his brother's business. Their father William was born in Keal in 1787 and may have trained his sons as Tailors before taking up retirement in a cottage near by, and becoming the Parish Clerk

Isaac Hardy had a small shop near Poppy Alley in the Devonport row of cottages opposite the Church in Stickney, and was married to Anna Maria Pennington who was a straw bonnet maker. At the time of his wedding in 1838 he describes himself as a Tailor. By the time of the 1861 census he is also listed as a Draper and a Grocer still living in the same house and now with his son as an apprentice working for him. In the middle of the 1870s Isaac and Anna left Stickney and moved to Boston to live with their son Isaac and his family. In 1882 when he was sixty six years old Isaac died. His

wife Anna died ten years later and was buried at Stickford, where she had spent the last ten years of her life living with her daughter Abigail.

Robert Lovell lived all his life in Stickney and was known locally as Bobby. After marrying Martha Holland in 1864 they lived in a house at the north end of Devon Port Cottages. He was born in 1839 and was the son of Charles Lovell who worked as a Miller and Baker in the Village. Robert may have learnt his trade with William Plant, a tailor that once lived only a few doors away from where he was brought up. He worked all his life as a tailor from his house opposite the Church until his eyesight failed him when he was in his eighty's. When his wife died in 1913, Rebecca Holmes became his house keeper and also continued with the small shop after Robert died in 1936.

William Plant first started with his own tailors business living and working from the house on the main road that is now called The Forge. His first wife was Betsey Woodthorpe, the daughter of the village blacksmith, who had a house and workshop next door. Betsey died in 1865 at the age of thirty four and William re-married to Lucy and moved into a cottage on the opposite side of the road to what is now Kings Garage. William was a half brother to Robert Lovell the tailor. They both had the same mother but different fathers. When William died in 1890 Lucy continued living in the same place as a Draper and selling goods from her small shop until her death in 1923 when she was eighty four.



Around the year 2000 the present owner of "The Forge" unearthed a Drapers Trade Token in his back garden that was dated 1791 and payable at the warehouse of Johnathan Garton & Co a linen draper in Hull Market Place



Thomas Dracass was a Journeyman tailor and was father to the John who

had the Tower Mill and Bake House in the village until his death in 1874 Thomas was born in West Keal in 1788 and spent most his life working around the area. He was living with his daughter Sarah a School Teacher at Stickney in 1851 in the house next to John's Bakery

John Lammin was a tailor all his life and lived down East Fen Side Lane towards the north end of the parish near Bar Green. He doesn't appear to be living in the village in his teenage years and was most probably learning his trade outside of the area. He was born in the parish in 1839 but died suddenly when he was only forty four years old. He was buried in Stickney Church yard in 1883 and was eventually joined by his wife Sara Ann who survived him by twenty three years. Around the 1840's the "Green Lane" where John and his family lived was known locally as Lammins Lane

Richard Walker and his wife Millicent came to the village from Spilsby sometime around 1850. They lived in the north end of the building that eventually became "Ireland's" Store and after a while they moved across the main road to one of the terraced houses that once stood near to the primitive chapels. In 1847 he was accused and later acquitted of stealing wool and cotton cloth from George Simpson when no evidence was produced He was born at Raithby about 1815 and trained as a Tailor and also took work in the parish as a Land Surveyor. Millicent was quite a bit older than him and died in 1861 and is interred in the Church yard. Soon afterwards Richard left Stickney and moved to Mareham le Fen where he married Betsy Padley a widow. He died there in 1885 at the age of seventy.

Eldred Septimus Cunnington was probably the last tailor to work in the village. He came to Stickney from his birth place of Kirton just before the 1930's and built "The Red House" just to the right of the Rising Sun. An old photograph shows the house having two garden gates at the front of the

property. The gate on the left admits visitors to the house, while the one to the right has a path leading to a shed in the back garden that Eldred used for his workshop. Mr Cunnington was born in 1891 and was discharged from the armed forces after losing a leg while serving in the first world war.

William Henry Gibson is listed in Stickney as a Tailor and Outfitter in the 1896 edition of Kellys Directory of Lincolnshire and may have occupied the building that was George Simpson Grocers shop and is now used by Kings as a Garage He was declared bankrupt in 1897.

A few other Tailors below are mention in various parish records although little is known about them at present.

Edward Turner and **Joseph Twig** are both mentioned in the 1780 and the 1782 tax returns **James Hewitt** was a tailor who died in 1783.

Dressmakers

As well as the Tailors in the village there were also several female dressmakers. Most wives of the time were capable of making basic clothing for the family and doing the necessary repairs but often turned to the professional Dressmaker for the more refined garments if they could afford them.

Mary Dixon is listed in all the Lincolnshire Directory's as a Dressmaker for over forty years. She appears to have spent all her adult life as a single woman living in the same house near Poppy Alley. She died in the September of 1885 at the age of sixty five and is buried in Stickney. Her mother Mary Drury was widowed twice and spent her last few years living

with her daughter in a house opposite the Church.

Mary Jane Fox was born in 1865 in Billesdon and came to Stickney with her Mother and Father who took the position of Police Officer in the Village. After he died Mary and her Mother moved into Mary Dixon's old house next to Robert Lovell the Tailor. Mary Jane remained single all her life and worked as a Dressmaker until she died in 1928 and was buried in the Church Yard.

Betsey Scarborough was born in Stickney in the year of 1850 and as a single mother made a living as a Dressmaker. By 1896 she no longer appears in the Lincolnshire Directories but a Betsey Robson is listed as a Dressmaker from then on. She most likely married James B Robson in the early 1890's who was now living with his parents in Hall Lane. As a teenager James was trained at Horbling as a Draper and Grocer but returned to Stickney to work on his fathers farm. James and Betsey spent their married life in a cottage on the main road opposite the Doctors House (The Hollies) Betsey died in 1913 and is buried in Stickney.

Betsey Woodthorpe Born in 1831 was the daughter of the village Blacksmith and learnt the trade of Dressmaker after leaving School. She was married to William Plant a local tailor but died in 1865 when she was only 34 years old. Ann Davy was a spinster who was in Stickney in the 1840's and lived with her brother in the East Fen Side b 1824 Hundleby died 1878

Betsey Houlden Milliner and dressmaker 1889 (Martha Born 1844 midville1881)

Betsey Scarborough's born 1850/51 father was probably Thomas Souden

born 1828 see Coltman book B59 Betseys mother Sara born 1825

Other Dressmakers

Ann Bradley b 1823 in Stickney

Eliza Hubbert b 1818 in Sibsey 51/61

Betsy Coupland b 1830 in Boston daughter of the Stickney Saddler

Eliza Audus b 1814 in Stickney

Ann Whitting b 1828 in Yorkshire

Ann st. Paul b 1829 in Stickney

Mary Lovell b 1810 in Leake mother of Robert the tailor

Mary Ann Firsk b 1818 in Norfolk

Charlotte Martin b 1820 in East Kirkby

at Louth.
 RICHARD WALKER was charged with stealing, at Stickney, a quantity of woollen and cotton cloth and a quantity of twilled cotton, the property of Geo. Simpson. No evidence being produced, he was acquitted. Nov 5th 1847
 WILLIAM LEACHMAN charged with stealing. at Horn-