

From MIDCROFT to BRICKWALL LANE

Numbers 63 and 65 (built 1923)

Two commercial buildings, the City & Westminster & Parr's (now NatWest) Bank took the site on the corner of Midcroft in 1923 and erected the splendid building that establishes a grand feature at a cross roads in the centre of the High Street, rivalling Howard Robert's tower opposite. The architect was Annesley H. Brownrigg of Drayton Gardens. The next door site (no. 65) was developed in the same year as a detached house and shop for Mr James Lucas. It was a pastry cooks in the 1930s and became the Midland Bank (now HSBC) in 1957^{xix}.



Nos. 63 & 65 - the two banks in 1969

Nos 67 - 73



Fig. 8 - nos. 67 - 71 in 2015



The Travel agents, no 75, are part of the Lytton (now Sanders) building. See Fig.9

(2 private houses, Baynards and Winstead, built 1923-4 redeveloped mid 1930s). There are no known pictures of the two houses. The site is now Boots, Vodafone, Scope (67,69 and 71) and Santander (73). Note in Fig. 8 the classical detail on the windows above Vodafone.

Two lock up shops were built on the site of Baynards in 1935-6, where Boots is in 2015. Mrs Bessie Martell was running her Baby Linen Warehouse from a single-storey building in 1933, which had probably replaced Winstead. She closed down in the early 1970s and Santander is now on the site. The Gas, Light & Coke Company (later North Thames Gas Showrooms) were established in 1934 and had a new showroom in 1967 (now Scope).



Fig.9 - Nos 71-75 in 1969 - Gas Showrooms, Martell and Travel

Nos 75-87 Site of the Church of the Most Sacred Heart built 1921. Site redeveloped 1939



Church of the Most Sacred Heart 1921-39 designed by A.S.G. Butler and built by A.E.A. Prowting

Cardinal Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster, was permitted to build the Roman Catholic Church of the Most Sacred Heart there in 1921, on land paid for by Miss Eleanor Warrender of Highgrove. The church, rectory and hall occupied the sites of 75-87 until 1939. The church moved to a larger site on Pembroke Road and the prime High Street site was soon filled with retail outlets.

Lyttons (Partington & Wilfred Howard Shaw proprietors) who had previously been trading at nos. 104 and 108 on the other side of the street, as ladies' outfitters, moved into their new shop at no. 77-79 (now John Sanders). It was and remains Ruislip's only department store. The architect for Burtons the tailors (nos. 81-83) was A.J. Fowles of Thorpe Bay, Essex. As was usual with Burtons and convenient for men's outfitters, there was a billiard-room upstairs. The Home & Colonial Store was at nos. 85 and 87.

There were several applications for illuminated neon signs in the mid-late 1950s. Lyttons applied for an illuminated clock in 1958. Another was outside J. Walker, the jeweller at no. 80. Public clocks seem to have disappeared from the High Street in recent years.



Lyttons, Burtons and the Home and Colonial stores in 1969



The same buildings in 2012. Now Sanders, Marks & Spencer, Ladbrokes and Cancer Research

Numbers 89-95 (built 1955, on site of two 1930s private houses)

The four shops are now occupied by Hob, hairdresser, Coral Betting Shop, Holland & Barrett and The Red Onion Restaurant. See Fig. 10.



Fig.10 - Nos 89-95

Numbers 97-113 (built 1935) ^{xx} for R. & W. Stears of Coolhurst Road, Crouch End, are designed in a plain classical style with interest coming from the projecting facades, which sport Juliette balconies under long pedimented windows in the upper story and were increasingly popular. The shops in 1937 included Barrie's Radio (wireless supplies) at no. 99 reminding us that the BBC was well established.



Note the gap on the left between the Home and Colonial Stores and the shops with flats above. This was where Dr Hayward's house stood until replaced by shops, nos. 89-95, in 1955. Nos. 97-113, built in 1935 in a classical style, contrast sharply with those on the right, erected tenders earlier with mansard roofs and timbered gables. The Astoria cinema can be seen on the left.



Tesco House Furnishers were at nos. 97-99 and Altons, Boys & Men's outfitters at 101-103 in the 1970s



Public Houses returned to the High Street, Sweeney had survived (but now Bar 101)

Numbers 115 -127 (built 1925)

A.E.A. Prowting, the local builder, had his builder's yard in Brickwall Lane, just behind the High Street. He built the nicely detailed shops with Mansard roofs, nos. 115-127 High Street, in 1925^{xxi}. They had three storeys, the maximum permitted, the upper levels containing offices and flats. F.H. Mansford, who lived in Kingsend, was the architect.



Nos. 115-127 in 2015

BRICKWALL LANE TO PEMBROKE ROAD



Cheyne Court and Station Parade

Numbers 129-147 Cheyne Court

Eight shops and eight Flats built for Cheyne Associates Ltd in 1933. The Architect was H.B. Bailey Esq. of Queen Victoria Street.

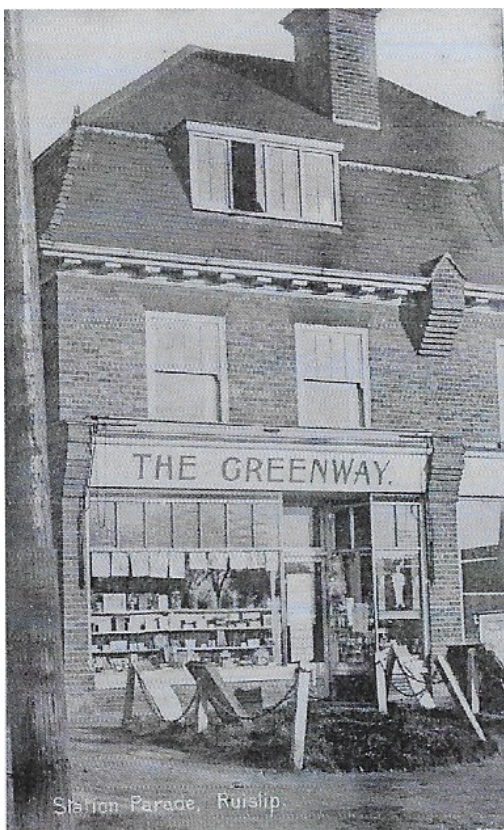
Numbers 153 -161 (originally 1-6 Station Parade), built 1911-13

An application for a parade of shops at the station end of the High Street was made in 1911^{xxii}. Unsurprisingly, it was called Station Parade. The three pairs of shops were occupied by 1913. They had a hall, dining room, kitchen and scullery being the shop and a drawing room, two bedrooms, bathroom and WC upstairs. They have attractive mansard roofs and were built for Gibbings & Co. The Morris family had no. 2, the Greenway stores, which sold sweets, newspapers and tobacco and where Oswald Morris, the distinguished cinematographer, was born in 1915.

Craddock's Dairy was at no.3. A new dairy was built at the back of the shop in 1915 and a shelter for a motor milk trolley was built in the passage behind the old dairy in the following year. Clearly the Craddocks were moving with the times.



Nos. 1, 2 and 3, Station Parade



The Greenway Stores is now The Synergy Spa.

