

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING STREET GUIDES: POTTERY YARD



THE MAJORITY OF buildings in Pottery Yard, including a small row of houses known as The Terrace, were demolished in the 1960s. Currently only one detached building remains, an old woollen mill which is currently occupied by a printing company and a taxi firm. Pottery Yard has the postcode DH4 4BA. It can be accessed by foot through a sloping footpath from Newbottle Street or by steps from Sunderland Street. Vehicle access is via Hillside Way (A182) following the introduction of a new road system in the late 1960s.

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6, POTTERY YARD, 1911

1874 – Edward Minto, a saddler of Pottery Yard, was declared bankrupt on September 22nd 1874.

1904 – Pottery Yard was included in the Houghton-le-Spring Electric Lighting Provisional Order 1904.

1911 - Joseph and Annie Grice lived at 6 Pottery Yard. Their ornate fireplace was photographed, giving us a rare glimpse into these vanished homes.

1912 – The Houghton-le-Spring Assembly (evangelical) hired a hall in Pottery Yard for use as a place of worship, having previously met at 63 Newbottle Street.

c1918 – William ‘Tushy’ Wheatley, son of the confectioner and Crimean War veteran George Wheatley, set up a sweet factory in Pottery Yard in a building formerly the Salvation Army Citadel.

1931 – Master printers year book - Clemmet & Grimes of Pottery Yard.

1938 – Clemmet & Grimes, general commercial printers,

1938 – William Wheatley & Son, manufacturing confectioners, Pottery Yard.

1947 – William Wheatley & Son vacated their Pottery Yard premises and moved to the larger Hawdonside Works on Sunderland Street.

1948 – Clemmet & Grimes, Printers, Pottery Yard.



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WORKERS AT POTTERY YARD IN 1947

???? – Harvian, owned by Harvey and Ian Wheatley, sold mis-shaped sweets from their premises in Pottery Yard.

???? – 1969 - Clemmet & Grimes, printers, was based in a building in Pottery Yard which originated as a woollen mill, making stockings. The business closed in December 1969.

1970 - The Gilpin Press, printers, opened on June 1st 1970 in the old mill building, and continues to operate from the premises as of 2013 (see also 46 Sunderland Street).

c2004 - Gilpin Press started to share the old mill building with Ideal taxis.

2010 – The garage attached to the old mill building, which featured a small plaque (No 1609) issued by Houghton Urban District Council's Rating Department, was converted into an office for Ideal taxis.

2011 – Daghish Photography moved into the upstairs of the old woollen mill in Pottery Yard.



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