

Grange Court history

There are several things you should know before reading the story of Grange Court:-

- For most of its existence it was known as Baildon Lodge.
- There are two houses called Baildon Lodge on Station Rd, and care has been taken to ensure that they have not been confused with each other in compiling this history. The other is further along Station Rd near the railway station.
- Baildon Lodge is built close to another large house called Baildon House, and there are close links between the two over their history.
- Press cuttings are included, to provide an insight into the lives of the occupants, along with a historical commentary.

The Story

In 1724, Baildon House was built. Adjacent to it was a wayside Inn called Leather Breeches, later Baildon Lodge. (*It should be noted that there was a brewery at Ingfield on Slaughter Lane which also had malt kilns, supplying the Inn.*)

Leather Breeches is not mentioned in the list of Baildon Inns of 1823 and so presumably closed and became residential before this date.

William Holden owned both Baildon House and Baildon Lodge. He died in 1809 aged 71 years. He left the properties to his only daughter who married John Lambert. The properties were then left to their two daughters.

Margaret married James Bent and they lived at Baildon House.

The other daughter, Caroline Ann, married Thomas Lockley, MD, aged 49, a local magistrate, and a practising physician, and they lived at Baildon Lodge.

The 1861 census confirms that they were living at Baildon Lodge with their 5 year old son, Edward Holden Lockley. They had a cook, servant and a groom.

They continued to live there until 1866.

York Herald – 14th April, 1880.

Death of Dr Lockley. It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of Dr Lockley which took place at his residence, Bootham, in the city yesterday morning. The deceased gentleman was the third son of the late George F Lockley of Half Moon St, London, by Margaret, youngest daughter and co-heiress of Mr Thomas Bolt of Ruswarp near Whitby. In 1852 Dr Lockley married Caroline Ann, second daughter and co-heiress of the late John Lambert of Baildon. The deceased gentleman left Baildon Lodge to reside in York in 1865 and was identified with many philanthropic institutions in the city.

In 1866 Mr Titus Salt Junior and his wife Catherine moved into Baildon Lodge, and lived there until 1871.

Titus Junior was the 7th child and 5th son of Sir Titus Salt who built Saltaire. Titus Junior married Catherine Crossley on 15th March, 1866. Her family owned Crossley Carpets in Halifax and had a very close friendship with the Salt family. The union of Titus and Catherine increased that bond.

Living at Baildon Lodge, their first 2 children were born there. Gordon Loxley Salt was born on 17th December, 1866 and Harold Crossley Salt was born on 2nd August, 1868.

Their project to build a huge mansion at Milner Field was conceived a few months into their marriage when two farm houses came up for sale on the Milner Field estate, which they bought and demolished while they were living at Baildon Lodge. Titus Junior's elder brother Edward had already built a mansion at Ferniehurst in Baildon.

Titus Junior went on to create the Milner Field mansion which was to entertain Royalty in 1882 and 1887.

Building began in 1871 and was completed in 1873.

Bradford Daily Telegraph - Monday 23 August 1869

SALTAIRE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.	
The eighth annual exhibition of the Saltaire Horticultural Society took place on Saturday, under extremely favourable auspices, in a field on the banks of the Aire, behind Saltaire Mill. A spacious tent for the plants, &c., was erected at one end of the field, and a space was enclosed in the centre for various sports got up for the entertainment of visitors. The exhibition in all departments may be accounted an entire success.	crease of one over that of last year. The judges, whose awards seemed to give universal satisfaction, were—Mr. Nichol, gardener to Titus Salt, Esq., Lightcliffe; Mr. Lurrimer, gardener to E. Salt, Esq., Ferniehurst, Baildon; Mr. Booth, gardener to T. Salt, Esq., jun., Baildon Lodge; and Mr. Henderson, gardener to Mr. S. W. Arderton, Manningham Lane, Bradford. During

The Salt family were always keen gardeners. The gardens at Milner Field were designed by Robert Marnock, a landscape designer who adopted the gardenesque style in which emphasis was placed on exotic and non-native plants including orchids, Lapageria Rosea (“a climbing plant with drooping bells in red and white with as many as 4,000 flowers at any one time”), melons and figs. There were even pineapples grown at Milner Field which were “enclosed in pits of horse manure one foot deep”.

(My gratitude to the late Alistair McKinna for publishing this information)

Titus Junior died suddenly of a heart attack in 1887 aged 44 years. This was the first of many tragedies which led to the jinx of Milner Field mansion – but that's another story.

In 1871, 24 year old Harry Rouse and his wife Mary aged 19 moved into Baildon Lodge. Harry was distantly related to the Salt family since his aunt Hannah Rouse married George Whitlam Haigh whose mother was Amelia Whitlam (*sister of Lady Caroline Salt*). They lived there until 1877. They had 4 servants, one of whom was also their coachman.

There was a long friendship between the Rouse family and the Salts. In 1822, when the Salt family came to Bradford, the seventeen year old Titus was taken on as an apprentice by William Rouse for two years to learn the wool trade. And in 1871, Sarah Amelia Rouse became the second wife of Titus Junior's brother, Edward. The Salts, Crossleys and the Rouses were united in friendship through the textile industry, through religion (Congregationalists), politics (radical liberals), and now through marriage.

Leeds Mercury

15th December, 1870 – At Edinburgh the marriage of Harry Rouse Esq of Baildon Lodge to Mary Hogarth, only daughter of the late Alexander Cunningham Esq of the Tofts, Morebattle, Roxburghshire.

Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer

19th October, 1871 – Rouse, on 18th October birth of a son

In 1881 there is an interesting twist to the story of the Lodge - John Rouse and family lived next door at Baildon House whilst at Baildon Lodge lived Elizabeth Hall, a 35 year old cook and Mary Park, a 24 year old housemaid.

By the 1891 census a family had taken over Baildon Lodge. John Spink, aged 54 years, (a wine and spirit merchant, brewer and cigar importer) and his wife Elizabeth Spink aged 45 years lived there with their 5 children Catherine (23), Gertrude (21), Bernard (19 and apprentice to an iron founder), Jack (6) and Geoffrey (4). They had a cook, housemaid and a nurse.

Joseph Spink and Sons were a well established Bradford business. John was a Director and partner in it.

Trade Directories in 1901 and 1912 note that the head office was on Market St and the warehouse was at Rosse St. A major investment was the Boars Head Restaurant, grill and bars at 6 to 8, Market St, and the Exchange Restaurant and bars at 18, Market St. There was also an interest in the Golden Lion and the Albion Hotel on Leeds Rd, the Queens Hotel on Lumb Lane, and the Shoulder of Mutton in Girdlington.

Bradford Daily Telegraph

6th July, 1887 – Baildon Local Board met yesterday evening. A letter complaining of the diversion of a stream of water which had been used by the inhabitants of Lower Baildon for domestic purposes for a great number of years was read by the Clerk. The letter stated that the stream had been taken from its course by the tenant of Baildon Lodge who had allowed it to run to waste. The Clerk was instructed to write to Mr Spink of Baildon Lodge asking that the stream be allowed to run its proper course.

And on 23rd October, 1889 - The Issue of 2,000 Preference Shares and 2,000 Ordinary Shares in the firm of Joseph Spink and Sons, Limited. John Spink and William Spink are listed amongst the Directors of the Company

Wharfedale and Airedale Observer

29th August, 1890 – Fashionable wedding at Baildon Church. The village of Baildon was the scene of great animation at noon on Wednesday, the occasion being the nuptials of Mr Oliver Firth, youngest son of Mr Thomas Firth, late of Baildon and now of Grange, and who was formerly a manufacturer at Shearbridge, Bradford, and Miss Florence Margaret Spink, second daughter of Mr John Spink (senior partner of the Bradford firm of Joseph Spink and Sons) of Baildon Lodge, Baildon.

In the 1901 census Alfred W. Hoffman aged 39 years, wool and yarn merchant, with his wife Sarah 40 and daughter Irene (12) were living at the Lodge. They are still there in 1926, with the addition of John Achior Hoffman (24) also a wool and yarn merchant. They had a cook and two housemaids, one from Bergen in Norway.

Alfred was a Jewish immigrant who established his office and warehouse at 8, Burnett St, Little Germany in the centre of Bradford, alongside other textile merchants who were immigrants from Germany.

Achior was a prominent member of Bradford Chamber of Commerce who worked tirelessly to promote the establishment of Bradford Conditioning House which was eventually opened in 1891. It provided a scientific, laboratory examination of the 150 million lbs of foreign wool which was imported from all over the world. Most important it led to a reduction in anthrax, an infectious disease of sheep and goats passed by spores carried in their fleeces, and which was known as the wool sorters disease. There were 62 fatal cases in Bradford between 1916 and 1920, but this number fell sharply after Dr Eurich discovered a system of disinfection involving heat and formaldehyde at the Conditioning House.

Bradford Daily Telegraph

7th February, 1893 – Lost in Baildon a Fox Terrier. It answers to the name of Tyrant and has three black spots on its body. Finder to contact Baildon Lodge.

5th September, 1894 – Accident to a Bradford gentleman. Mr Joseph Drake, son of the late Alderman Drake was yesterday out riding on a horse belonging to Mr Alfred Hoffman of Baildon Lodge, when he met with an accident. The riderless horse arrived at Shipley last evening, from the saddle of which the stirrup on one side was missing, and efforts were made to discover the rider. In the meantime Mr Drake reached home but was not, fortunately, seriously injured.

15th July, 1896 – at the residence of her brother-in-law, Alfred W Hoffman of Baildon Lodge, the death of Emily, youngest daughter of the late Nathan Drake.

6th December, 1899 – Mr Alfred Hoffman of Baildon Lodge, brother of Colonel Hoffman, is suffering from a severe attack of typhoid fever and has been confined to his house for several weeks.

Shipley Times and Express

12th August, 1904 – Gentleman's valet absconds. On Thursday last, a person named Walter James, a valet on the employ of Mr A.W Hoffman of Baildon Lodge, disappeared and soon afterwards his employer found that a sum of nearly £50 has been taken. James, who was formerly in the Army, is believed to be a native of London. He is of smart, military appearance and about 46 years of age. Mr Hoffman placed the utmost confidence in him. James had been employed at Baildon Lodge for about ten years. He is reported to have got into difficulties through betting. Mr Hoffman is sorry for the betrayal of his confidence. The police have been communicated with on the subject.

17th February, 1906 – Wanted at once, an Upstairs Maid. Good references required. Apply Mrs Alfred Hoffman, Baildon Lodge.

16th July, 1909 – Mr A.W Hoffman won two silver rose bowls in the amateur class at the Saltaire Rose Show.

Wharfedale and Airedale Observer

Motor cycling at dangerous speed. Mr John A Hoffman of Baildon Lodge was summoned at Bradford on Wednesday for driving his motor cycle at a dangerous speed. According to the evidence, on July 21st he rode up Cheapside in Bradford at an estimated speed of 25 to 30 miles per hour at a time when there was a good deal of pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Mr S.E. Nixon of Headingley said that he had just stepped off a car at the bottom of Cheapside when the defendant swept past and up the hill. He spoke to the constable on point duty and this officer estimated the speed at 30 miles per hour. In the witness box the defendant said he had only ridden 15 yards when he passed the officer and, as his machine is geared abnormally high, it

could not possibly have accelerated to anything like the speed mentioned. The Stipendiary Magistrate imposed a fine of £2 including costs, and expressed the opinion that motor cycles did travel too fast and steps should be taken to moderate them.

ShIPLEY Times and Express

2nd January, 1914 – A striking illustration of the mildness of the weather experienced up to Christmas was seen in the garden of Mr A.W.Hoffman, Baildon Lodge, where there were many beautiful rose blooms.

2nd October, 1914 – Men who have joined the Kings forces include Jack Hoffman of Baildon Lodge who has joined the West Middlesex Regiment.

Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer

29th May, 1921 – The engagement is announced between John A Hoffman, son of Mr and Mrs Alfred W Hoffman of Baildon Lodge and Elizabeth ('Betty'), only daughter of Mr and Mrs F.J. Haggas, JP, of Cliffe Lodge, Baildon.

7th April, 1927 – the death is announced on April 6th in his 66th year of Alfred William Hoffman, Service at Scholemoor Crematorium, Bradford at 11-30am tomorrow, April 8th. No flowers, no mourning, by request.

In 1928 Sarah is living alone at the Lodge.

Electoral Roll

1929 & 1930 – no entry (house vacant?)

1931 – William, Ann & Henry Hudson

1932 & 1933 – no entry (house vacant?)

Electoral Roll - 1934 to 1940 – Edgar & Sarah Wrigglesworth

Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer

31st January, 1934 – Wanted immediately, young experienced nanny for boy two years old. Good refs. Mrs Wrigglesworth, Baildon Lodge.

Wanted experienced Cook- General, to wash; housemaid kept. Mrs Wrigglesworth, Baildon Lodge, Station Rd, Baildon.

In October, 1940, the Sunday Schools at the Primitive Methodist and Moravian Churches, the Picture House (opposite the Malt Shovel) and a number of large houses were commandeered by the military authorities for billeting purposes. It may be that Baildon House and Lodge were amongst the houses chosen.

Mary France, in "Wartime Remembered" by Baildon Oral History Group, recalls that the seats in the Picture House (*opposite the Malt Shovel on Northgate*) had been removed to accommodate the soldiers and the floor was very sloping. "They went to sleep in the 1/3d and woke up in the 4d".

"Most of the soldiers attended dances at the Parochial Hall and there was no shortage of partners – but we had to develop the art of avoiding untrained feet." A canteen for service personnel was opened in the Methodist Sunday School.

Electoral Roll - 1945 to 1956 – Thomas & Eileen Briggs

Electoral Roll - 1957 to 1962 – Peter & Stephanie Marbach

Shipley Times and Express

13th April, 1955 - Mr Peter Marbach of Baildon Lodge and managing director of Petmar Industries, Batley, left for a continental business tour on Monday. The tour will last for 16 days of road travel, and during that time he will visit Holland, Belgium, Switzerland and Germany. Before setting out he said "In these days the need to expand our economy, especially in the textile areas, is apparent. This can, to some extent, be achieved by increasing our exports on a national scale. I trust that my visit to Europe will have the dual effect of increasing our own sales abroad and in doing so further the country's balance of trade position."

26th September, 1956 – Baildon Lodge, the beautiful home of Mr and Mrs Peter Marbach was the delightful setting for a cocktail party and reception. Lord Swinton was the principal guest.

12th March, 1958 – Allan Binns, aged 33, a labourer of 10, Kelvin St, Bradford 4, was fined £10 after he had pleaded guilty to stealing a £1 note, the property of Alice Brullhardt at Baildon Lodge. Miss Brullhardt was the maid at Baildon Lodge, and while her employers were away in America she was in charge of the house. About nine o'clock in the morning of January this year she placed a £1 note in her purse, later putting it in her shopping bag and left it on the kitchen table. During the course of the morning the accused, who was at that time a window cleaner in the Baildon area, called at the Lodge and told her he would repair a broken window in an upstairs room. She allowed him to enter the house and he went to the window upstairs. He later came back into the kitchen. Miss Brullhardt told him that she was going to the shop and he said that he would accompany her. She went upstairs and

returned five minutes later and found that he had left the house. She also found that the £1 note was missing from her purse. She reported the matter to the police, and when the accused was seen at his home he said 'It wasn't me, you are on the wrong man.' He was questioned further and admitted the offence. Chief Inspector Allderidge said Binns had previous convictions for false pretences, housebreaking, larceny and forgery. The Chairman said that they were giving Binns one last chance and ordered him to pay the £10 fine at ten shillings a week.

21st May, 1958 – A new Baildon company. New companies announced on Friday by Jordan and Sons Ltd, company registration agents, included Processed Fibres Ltd, Baildon Lodge, Baildon. Nominal capital £100 in £1 shares. Directors L.P.Marbach, Norman H Gaunt and Stephanie Marbach, all of Baildon Lodge.

Electoral Roll – 1974 to 1978 – Kenneth and Sheila Blundell

Electoral Roll – 1979 to 1982 – Graham and Vivian Ing

In 1985 Baildon Lodge became a residential home for the elderly, owned by Dr Wozney, which closed in 1996/7.

1997 – Baildon Lodge was bought and redecorated by the Berry family. The residential home was then re-opened as Grange Court on 4th January, 1998. There have been a number of building renovations since then, including

- **joining the existing house to the stable building in 1999**
- **the conservatory was completed and a side garden landscaped in 2010**
- **a hair salon and toilet facilities provided on the ground floor in 2011**
- **additional rooms were created in 2018 to bring occupancy up to 30 residents.**

Roger Clarke

(With thanks to Tish Lawson and Colin Coates for their help)

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