



Images courtesy of Cheshire Image Bank

This site has had several uses over the years. In the late 19th century it was probably where William Price, a monumental mason had his workshop, later used by John Jones Palmer, also a monumental mason. Palmer owned the quarry at Five Crosses from the early 1900s, until 1912, when he emigrated to Australia.

In the late 1890s, Joseph Nield set up his own smithy on the area where the car park is situated. His father, Thomas, had another smithy on the opposite side of Church Street. Joseph specialised in ornamental iron work, including inn signs and gates. A gate at St Lawrence Church the inn sign for the Cholmondeley Arms are an example of his craftsmanship. His sons carried on the business when Joseph died in 1923.

Joseph Nield's smithy



In the early 1900s, two shops were opened in a converted disused cricket pavilion. One side was a sweets and toy shop, initially owned by Sarah Roberts. The shop was known as "Toffee Roberts".

Reused cricket pavilion c.1930s



Pat Finnerty had this shop in the 1930/40s. He too sold sweets and ice creams. Ann, the daughter of James Garnett landlord of the Cholmondeley Arms had it after him and finally it became a newsagents belonging to L. A. Ball.

The other side was always a saddler's. Initially it belonged to James Clarke from Five Crosses.

Clarke's Saddler's shop in the early 1900s

In 1922, Albert Edward Martin opened a shop there. He was not only a saddler and harness maker but undertook all manner of leather work including boot and shoe repairs. He used to live in Widnes but after his marriage in 1930, he moved to the Old Manor House, 84 Main Street.



The whole site was redeveloped in 1958 and a new property was built for the electrical contractors, Latham and Fletcher. They occupied both floors and sold fancy goods and household wares.

House of Temperley took over from Latham and Fletcher. They sold televisions, Hi-Fi radios and household goods.

Bed Centre c.2000



Penketh Floor Coverings Ltd T/A Frodsham Carpet and Bed Centre moved into the building as a tenant in 1997.

In 2003 they purchased the whole building. In 2008 Costa Coffee took on the tenancy of the ground floor.

Penketh Floor Covering Ltd T/A Land of Beds, continues to conduct business from the upper floors and also has a shop in Helsby.