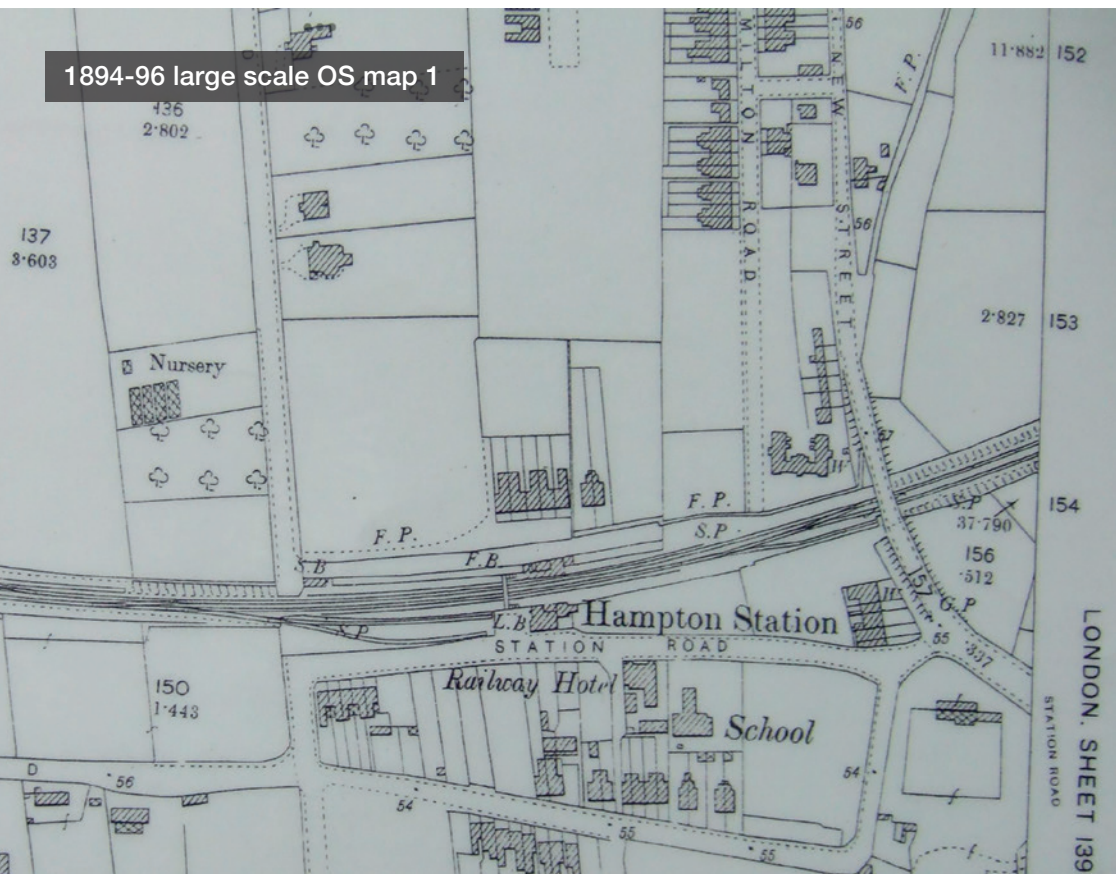


# Images Of Shops On The North Side Of Hampton Station In The 1960s, 1970s & 1980s

The railway had come to Hampton in 1864 but there was only one entrance, on the south or 'down' side. Passengers had to cross the line to the platform on the north or 'up' side until 1897, when a new road (Ashley Road) and entrance to the station were made on the north side. In this article we'll have a look at some images of shops on the north side of the railway in the 1960s, 1970s & 1980s where we have, at least, some colour images to see what some of the shops were like at that time. These shops are in Ashley Road, part of Milton Road, Station Approach and part of Wensleydale Road. As we go along, we'll also look at some historic maps to see how the number of shops changed as well.



When the railway first arrived, not only was there no entrance on the north side there were very few buildings and certainly no shops on that side. The land was mainly just fields or formed part of larger estates with a few cottages dotted around. Gradually, from the 1870s

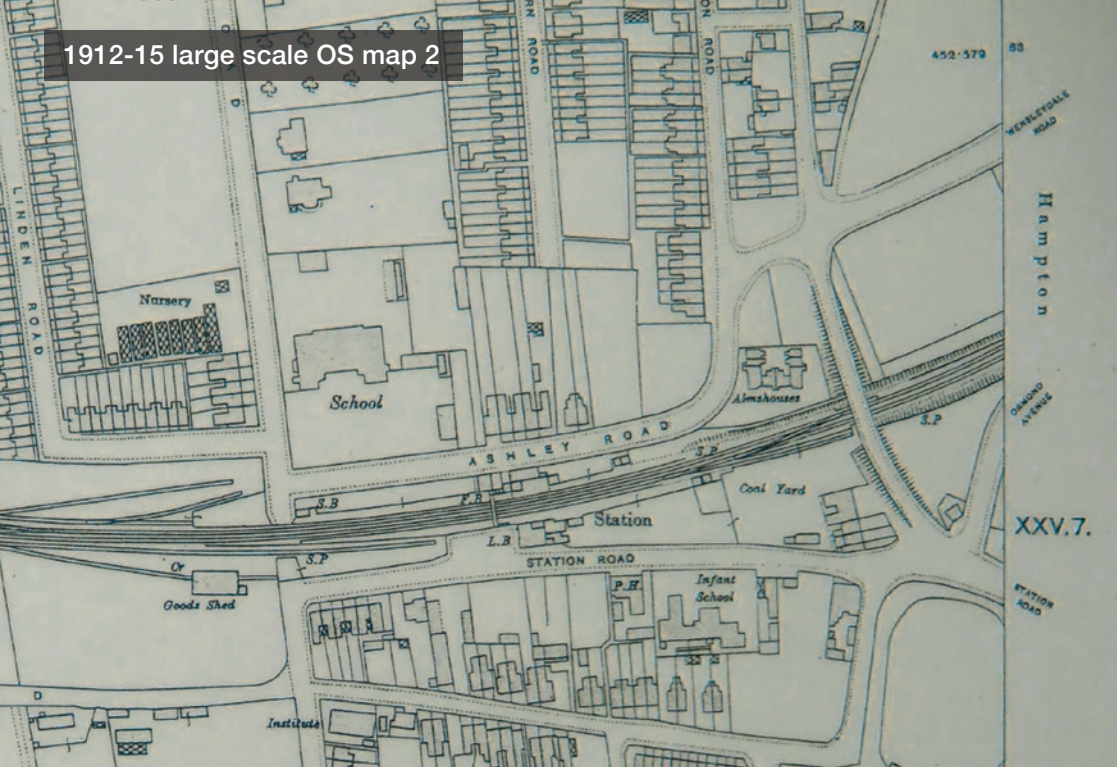


onwards, development started to take place in this area. By the time of the 1894-96 large scale OS map, (see Map 1), some houses had been built at the northern end of Milton Road but no shops. Ashley Road did not yet exist as a road although it did contain a few properties linked by a footpath ('FP' on map) including a terrace of five properties called Torbay Villas opposite the station. The property on the left-hand end (No 5) of Torbay Villas was a shop as we see in this first photo (c1962) when it was occupied by G J World as a newsagent and tobacconist, having been in this usage for decades. These properties were demolished in c1982 when a new cul-de-sac, Mary Rose Close was built on the land (named after Henry VIII's warship that was then much in the news).

Moving on to the 1912-15 large scale OS map, see Map 2, we can note that Ashley Road now exists as a road (built in 1897) but has no further shops and has a blank plot, on the corner, at the right-hand end of the road. At the left-hand end of the road Hampton Juniors, opened in 1907, is marked as 'School' on the map. Above the blank plot, on the corner of Ashley Road, a row of seven shops has extended Milton Road southwards. Station Approach exists as a road (above the 'Almshouses' [now Jubilee House]) but with no shops. Station Approach joins Wensleydale Road on the right-hand edge of the map but also with no shops yet built.

Our next photo shows the shop of RE Grimes, butchers, at 74 Milton Road, with A & P Lusher, footwear at No 76 and other shops beyond. Planning permission had been granted for these seven shops (No's 70 - 82, even numbers) in 1905. No 74 had been a butchers shop

1912-15 large scale OS map 2



R.E. Grimes Butchers



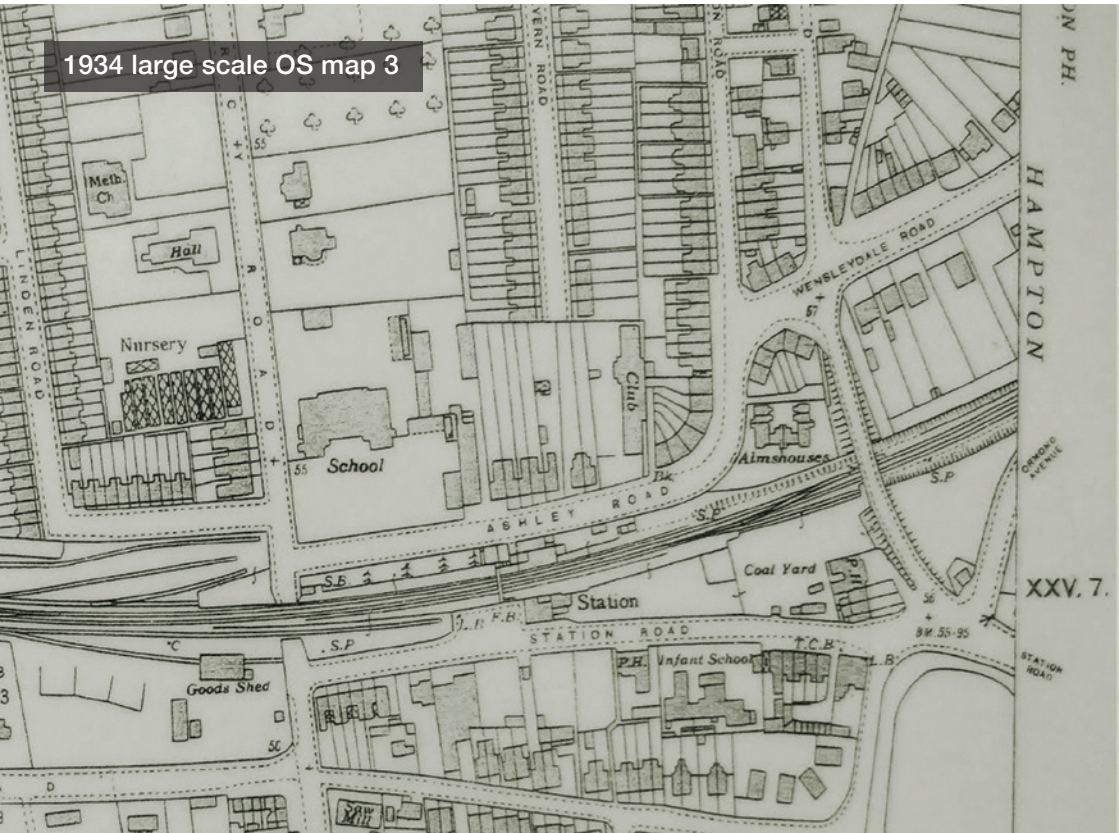
from when it was built. It was called F & G Toms from c1923 to 1968 and R E Grimes from 1969 into at least the 1990s. It ceased to be a butchers in c2005.

On to our third map which is the 1934 large scale OS map, and we can see that the shops in the bend of Ashley Road have been built, as have the shops in Station Approach and also the shops at the beginning of Wensleydale Road.

The next photo shows two of the Ashley Road shops: Hampton Florists Ltd at No 37, with some flowers being unloaded outside, in 1969, and Boswells (hardware) at No 35. These six shops date to c1930. The Hampton Florists shop was a grocers, originally, for more than 30 years (Pears' Stores) and then a florists in the 1960s and 1970s.

This 1984 photo shows Boswells, again, at no 35 and the florists shop at no 37 had now become Polly's, a wool shop. Some of the Milton Road shops can also be seen: No 82 as Barclays Bank, although originally a greengrocer, and known as Fredk. Bennett, for decades. Bonway Travel is at No 80. It was a grocers, Albert Keeping, for decades until at least the 1960s and then Bonway Travel and later Fairway Travel. Behind the telephone pole is JF Songi Ltd, bookmakers which was originally a tailors for decades.

The next image shows No's 1, 2 & 3 Station Approach, in the 1960s, here occupied by FG Martin, chemist, Clarke Ltd, bakers and Ellis & Co, wine merchants. The shops had opened in 1928 and all three shops have stayed in the same business from when they opened until the present day nearly a century later. They are currently in the occupation of Boots,



Hampton Florists & Boswells Hardware



Polly's and Milton Road Shops



1, 2 & 3 Station Approach in the 1960s



3 -13 Wensleydale Road



## 1956-60 large scale OS map 4



chemists, The Cavan Bakery (since 1969) and Hampton Cellar. On the other side of the road are numbers 4-8 although no image from this time period is available.

Our next photo shows the six shops at Nos 3 -13, odd numbers, Wensleydale Road in the 1960s. These shops were at first also known as 1 - 6 Bridge Parade, due to their proximity to the bridge over the railway, when they first opened in c1927. From right to left, the end shop (at No 13) is F J Bonfield, photographic services. It was in business for around five decades from at least the early 1950s. It will be remembered by many for being busy and providing helpful photographic advice. Much of its business was in supplying photo prints and enlargements in the days of film cameras where the film or negatives had to be taken to a shop to be processed. No 11, with striped blind, was Lesley's, wool and haberdashery, No 9 has the name of Adams on the blind and was a confectioner and tobacconist (later moving to childrens clothes and toys) but still under the name of Adams (as it was for nearly sixty years), No 7, also with blind, was LH Woolnough Ltd, grocers. The next shop at No 5, partially obscured behind the tree, was Hampton Electrical Supplies, as it was for more than three decades. Finally, at No 3 was Lloyds Bank as it had been since the early 1930s. It remained in business at these premises until it closed in July 2019.

The final Map (above) is from the 1956-60 large scale OS map and shows many of the street numbers of the shops for reference.

*John Sheaf*

# GLOUCESTER ROAD

Gloucester Road runs between Broad Lane and Wensleydale Road in a sweeping curve parallel to the railway line. It was formerly part of the Manor House Estate which was cut in two when the railway arrived in Hampton in 1864. It is believed that the Earl of Carlisle, owner of the Manor House Estate, had family connections with Gloucester. The road was probably built between April and October 1904. It was not listed in the 1905 Kelly's Directory, for which the information had probably already been gathered by the time the road had been laid out. The road was numbered in May 1925, the houses being named until that time.

In 1911 the road had 20 inhabited houses and 11 uninhabited which were almost certainly under construction and had mainly already been named. The houses were at the northern







end of the road near the junction with Broad Lane. Residents included a Nurseryman Florist (I Merridew) and a Nurseryman (T Fenn) as well as professions such as a civil servant, company secretary, manufacturer and several retired people. All the property was built from the northern end and the southern end was completely empty at this time although the road had been laid out.

*John Sheaf*

