



“Mr Wheatley” would have been no less than the Reverend William Whately at the vicarage. The implication is that they were near neighbours, and that Perrin needed to access the back of his house from the rear of the vicarage, they being adjacent on the east side of Horse Fair.

The double frontage to the building now on this site is certainly post-seventeenth century. It is Georgian-style, probably eighteenth century but possibly even later, first pictured in 1840 (but then there are no earlier detailed pictures of any Banbury streets). We were allowed to look at the interior of the southern portion, but this has been so altered that there was no dateable evidence of when it might have been built or, more probably, rebuilt.

The Banbury tax assessment of July 1642 lists a William Perrin paying 2s. (payments varied from 5s. to 6d.), and the same or another separately “for his house” 1s.6d.⁵ In 1653 William Pering was leasing “one little tenement with a shop in Church Lane”, though it was sub-let.

⁵ *Oxfordshire ... Protestation Returns and Tax Assessments 1641-2*, BHS vol. 24 and Oxfordshire Record Society 59, 1994, pp.39-40.