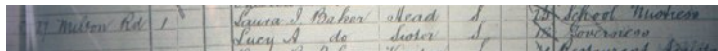




The history of our school

History

1890



The school was founded by Miss Laura Jane Baker who, together with her sister Lucy, set up a small school for girls at 27 Milton Road, Wokingham.

1893

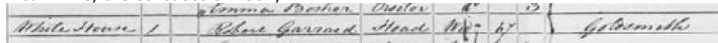
The school quickly grew and, after three years, moved into larger premises at Terrace Point in Broad Street (now the Tudor House Surgery). The school's name changed to Grosvenor House School to reflect its growing status. [Photo courtesy of Wokingham History Group]



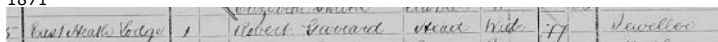
**Baker Charles, picture frame maker, 17 Market place
Baker Laura (Miss), ladies' school, 35 Broad street
Baker Westley shankener 26 Rose street**

White House

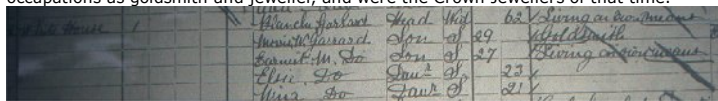
Meanwhile, the censuses of 1861,



1871



and 1901 show White House being occupied by the Garrard family. They list their occupations as goldsmith and jeweller, and were the Crown Jewellers of that time.



1919

The school continued to prosper and, at the end of the First World War, this necessitated another move to larger premises at Montague House in Broad Street. By this time the school was co-educational and the number of children increased to around a hundred, forty of whom were boarders.



1929

In 1929, the Holt School opened and most of the senior girls moved there. Forty years after its foundation, boarding facilities ceased and the school became what it is today, a preparatory school for children under 11 years old.

1931

Two years later the school moved to Albert Road and, shortly after, Miss Baker retired and Miss Rosalie Smith, one of the teachers, became headmistress.

1939

Miss Smith left and Miss Laura Baker's neices, Misses Olive and Janet Knight, took over as head teachers and changed the school's name to the Wokingham Preparatory School.

1947

After the end of the war, the Misses Knight retired and Miss Beryl Caudwell became headmistress. Under her guidance the school moved to its present site in Finchampstead Road, and was renamed after its new premises, The White House School. A large building program was started and the school gradually took on the appearance we know today.

Today



We celebrated our centenary in 1990 and are now looking forward to our quasiquintennial celebrations. That is, White House School has been providing outstanding education to the children of Wokingham for nearly 125 years!