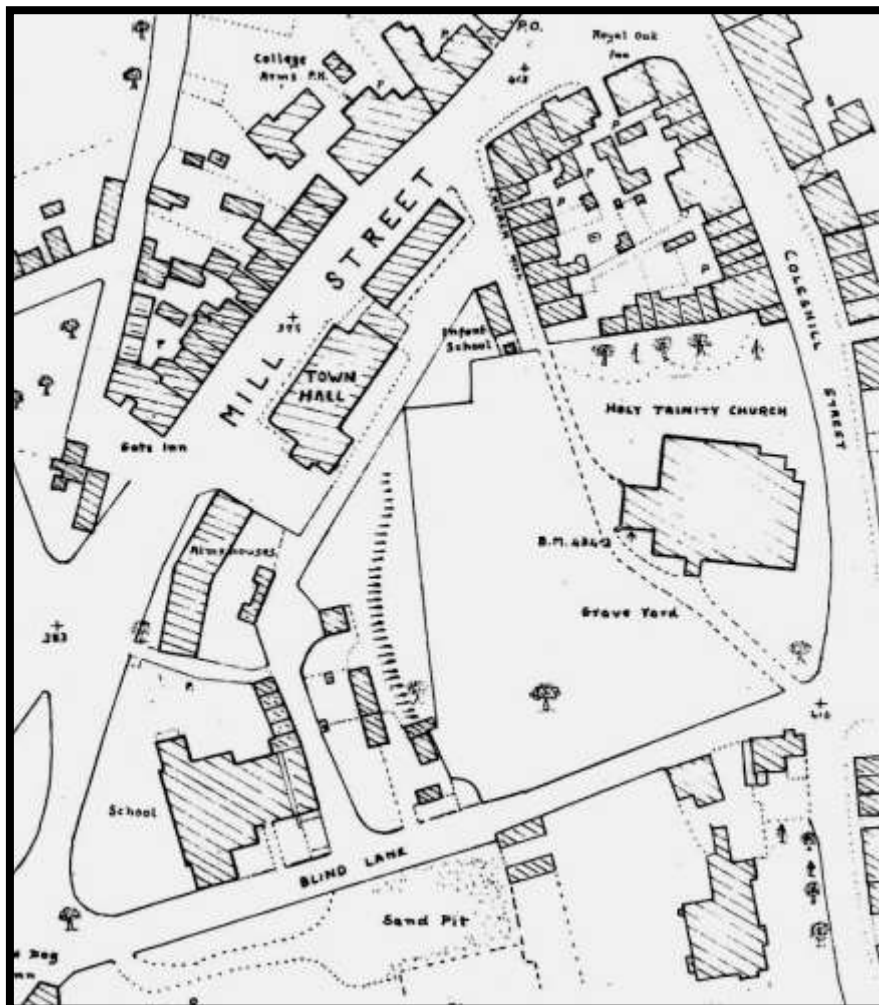


# Church Hill, Coleshill Street and Mill Street

## Part 3

### The 'Old Sun' Public House



1886 Survey Map

By Keith Jordan

(Member of the Sutton Coldfield Local History Research Group)

June 2020

**CHURCH HILL, COLESHILL STREET AND MILL STREET**  
**THE ‘OLD SUN’ PUBLIC HOUSE**

The ‘Old Sun’ Public House was situated in Coleshill Street, almost directly opposite the Holbeche residence. It was also just two or three doors down from the ‘Royal Oak’, which stood on the corner of Coleshill Street and Mill Street.



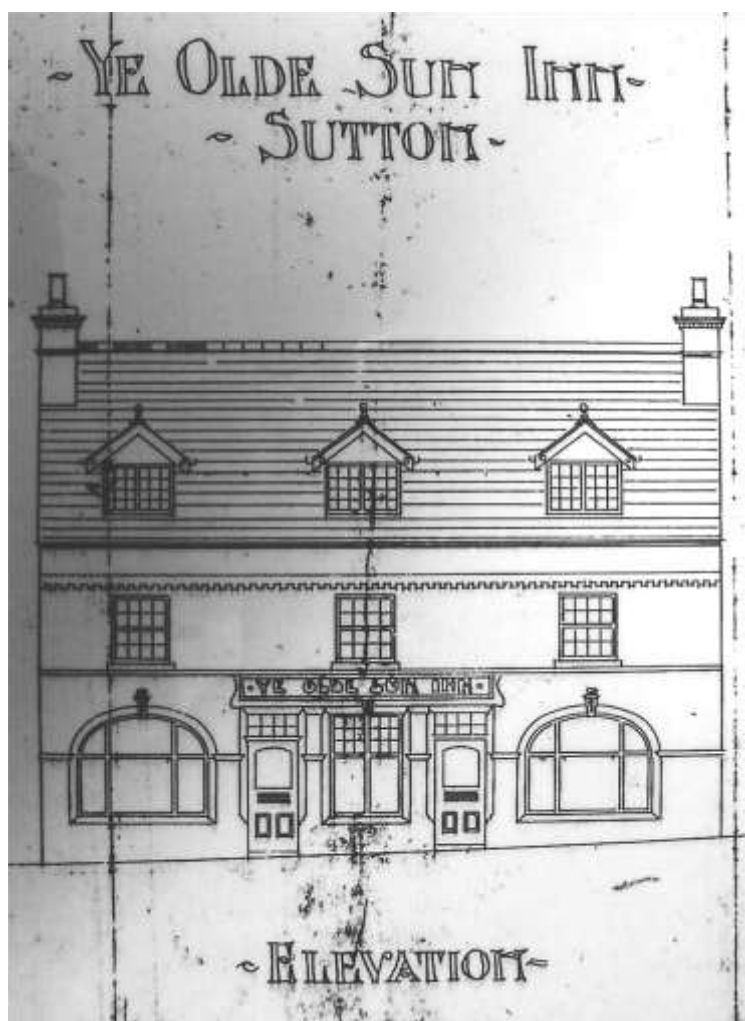
**View of the ‘Old Sun’ Inn from the High Street Circa 1890. Note the pub sign and the large glass globe which, no doubt, depicts the Sun.**

The building has a very long history and dates back to at least the reign of Charles I (1625-1649). The first recorded account of the original property is a Conveyance dated 30<sup>th</sup> December 1646, when it was probably a farmhouse. One might recall that this was about the time the English Civil War was drawing to a close (1642-1646). The document in question was a Feoffment (a deed conferring the right to the next person to sell or to leave to heirs, or as a gift). The parties involved were John Hill the elder in the first part and William Penn, William Willy and John Penn in the second part.

Between 1703 and 1751 the property belonged to the Cockersall family. Thomas Cockersall then sold it to Abraham Outon, who developed the property by replacing two outhouses with dwelling houses on the Coleshill Street frontage. Outon changed the use of the building and Richard Smith appeared to have been installed as the Innkeeper. The property was subsequently inherited by his grandson Thomas Alldridge in 1809 when, at this time, it was known as the ‘Sun’ Public House.

To examine a list of legal documents relating to the ‘Old Sun’ and a Chronology of the parties involved, please refer to the end of this research.

## THE 'OLD SUN' PUBLIC HOUSE (Continued)



Drawing of the 'Old Sun' Inn.

Charles Alldridge in 1819 then inherited from his brother Thomas and the Directory for Sutton Coldfield shows Alice Alldridge as the landlady in 1835. According to Sarah Holbeche in her diary, in 1836 Alice Alldridge married a Mr Charles Smith of Charles Smith's Coaches and they went to live at Miss Pimlott's house opposite. In February 1848 he was one of the pall bearers at the funeral of Sarah's father, Thomas Holbeche, along with Richard Browne, Whitworth Hay, John Alldridge and Mr Field. Although married, she continued to use the name Alldridge until she was succeeded by John Alldridge in 1841.

John Alldridge was the son of Alice Alldridge and his name first appeared in the 1841 Census Return. He continued to serve the customers of the beerhouse until 1855. The Alldridge family therefore had control of the 'Old Sun' for a period of approximately 46 years.

On Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> November 1855 an article appeared in Aris's Birmingham Gazette which stated:-

**Notice:** The 'Old Sun' Inn, Sutton Coldfield to be sold by auction by Samuel Kempson on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November 1855 at the house of Mr John Alldridge in the town of Sutton Coldfield at 3.00pm in the afternoon (by direction of the Trustees of Sale) subject to conditions to be then produced – the following valuable PROPERTIES:-

## **THE 'OLD SUN' PUBLIC HOUSE (Continued)**

**LOT 1.** *All that the above-named, well-accustomed FREEHOLD PUBLIC HOUSE called the 'Old Sun', with a capital club-room, sitting room, parlour, convenient bedrooms, Brewhouse, Stable and other Out-offices, with garden behind the same, situated in Coleshill Street in the town of Sutton Coldfield now and for many years past in the occupation of Mr John Aldridge, the Proprietor.*

*Immediate possession can, if required, be given and the Household Goods, Furniture, Fixtures, Brewing utensils and other Effects, may be taken at a fair valuation.*

**LOT 2.** *Nine undivided TENTH PARTS or SHARES of and in a most comfortable FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSE, with small garden, Brewhouse and Outbuildings behind the same, situated on the CHURCH HILL in the town of Sutton Coldfield aforesaid, now in the occupation of Mr Thomas Halbeard at the annual rent of 13s.*

**LOT 3** *One undivided THIRD PART or SHARE of and in all those LEASEHOLD MESSUAGES and SHOPS, centrally situated in the High Street of Sutton Coldfield, recently occupied by Mrs Sarah Smith, Draper and Mr William Henry Hamlyn, Baker, together with the Outbuildings, Stabling, Yards and Gardens behind the same, which premises are now occupied by Mr John Flecknoe, at the annual rent of 26s.*

**LOT 4.** *A convenient nine-quarter MALTHOUSE adjoining LOT 1. in the occupation of the said John Aldridge, together with the Dwelling House attached, fronting the street and in the occupation of Mr Robert Wilson.*

*For further particulars apply at the offices of Messrs Holbeche and Addenbrooke in Sutton Coldfield, or to the Auctioneer in Sutton Coldfield or at his office 36 Union Street, Birmingham.*

William Goodwin, who also owned the 'Beggars Bush' at New Oscott, was the purchaser of the property and he installed Mr William Betts as the Licensee.

In his Diary, Richard Holbeche, stated:-

*"Who kept the 'Old Sun' before William Betts I do not know. I do know that Betts must have been a very popular host for, in pre-railway days his house was a great meeting place for Birmingham tradesmen who, on Sundays, drove their wives in gay bonnets to take the Sutton air. They came in smart dog carts drawn by fast trotting ponies of a type not now met with".*

He also went on to say:-

*"Old Betts, William Betts' father, occupied the ugly red house opposite the church yard. He was a pleasant, old-fashioned man who wore breeches and gaiters and sometimes a long smock. His wife was tall, grey and had an upright figure and a very prepossessing face".*

## **THE 'OLD SUN' PUBLIC HOUSE (Continued)**

Sarah Holbeche, in her diary, also had something to say about the Betts family because in 1865 she wrote:-

“Mrs Betts, formerly of the ‘Old Sun’ Inn and of later years the Emmanuel College Arms in Mill Street, died.

Her last entry, created something of a mystery, as she stated that in April 1869:-

“William Betts died at the ‘Old Sun’ Inn – a life wasted, abused and mis-used”.

Whatever could she have meant by this? Was it the case that, being the landlord of a public house, offered him too easy an access to alcohol from which he eventually succumbed. Sadly, one will never know the full story!

Richard Holbeche mentioned earlier about the use of dog carts. These vehicles were derived directly from gigs and were either two or four wheeled vehicles. As their name suggests they were originally used for the transporting of sporting dogs, which were carried under the seat.



**Dog Cart Circa 1860's.**

In 1869, upon the death of William Betts, Henry Foden took control but, 3 years later, on the 10<sup>th</sup> July 1872, he also sadly died. The Death Certificate stated that he died from a ‘disease of the heart’. This was certified after an inquest was held into the cause of his death. His wife, Mrs Maria Foden, replaced him and the following year was quite a momentous one for her as, during this period, she was declared bankrupt and she met and married a Mr Charles Kemp. However, less than a year later, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1874, she too died.

In 1875 Richard Holbeche’s brother Thomas Vincent Holbeche purchased the ‘Old Sun’ Inn for £1,050 (the value today would be in the region of £122,000). He duly kept Charles Kemp on as licensee, who continued in this position for a total of four years until 1878.

## **THE ‘OLD SUN’ PUBLIC HOUSE (Continued)**

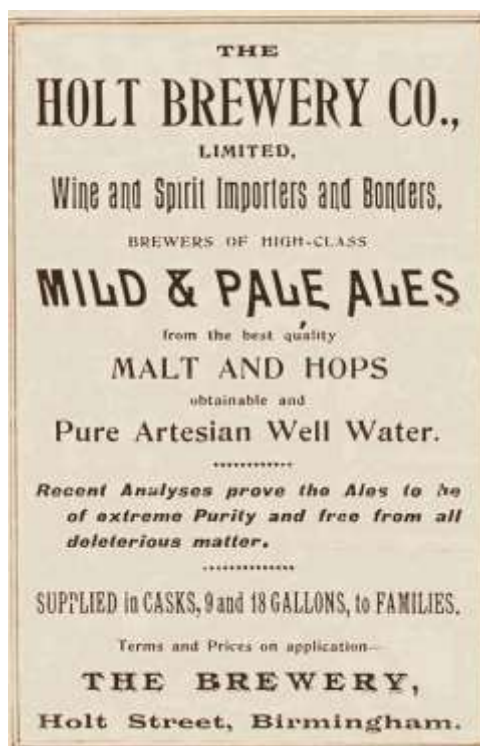
James Pittam then had the license until 1887, followed by Thomas Smith for one year and Mrs Esther Duncalfe, late of the ‘Golden Cross, Aston, for another year. During Mrs Duncalfe’s stay she placed an advertisement in the Lichfield Mercury, on the 7<sup>th</sup> September 1888, which stated:-

### **‘Old Sun’ Inn**

*Visitors to Sutton Coldfield will meet with every attention and courtesy at the above old established house. Atkinsons Pure Malt Ales, Wines and Spirits of the finest quality. Cigars of the choicest brands.  
Proprietress: Mrs Duncalfe (late of the Golden Cross, Aston).*

The advertisement was repeated a week later on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September 1888 in the same paper.

In 1890 Thomas Vincent Holbeche then leased the public house to the Holt Brewery Company Limited of Holt Street, Birmingham.



**Advertisement for the Holt Brewery Co. Ltd Circa 1890.**

It is known that auctions took place at the ‘Old Sun’ Inn. On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 1845 Aris’s Birmingham Gazette included an article, which stated:-

*On the 7<sup>th</sup> February 1845 W Webb was due to hold an auction selling two shops in the High Street.*

Another article which appeared in the same paper said:-

*On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 1856 Mr Kempson was due to sell by auction Freehold Meadow and Pasture Land at Hill Hook, Mere Green and Maney etc.*

## **THE 'OLD SUN' PUBLIC HOUSE (Continued)**

Meetings also took place at the establishment, as can be read in an article dated Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 1854, again in Aris's Birmingham Gazette. It stated:-

*Last Tuesday evening a meeting was held at the 'Old Sun' Inn under the auspices of the Sutton Park Protection Society to take into consideration the issue of the right of shooting in the Park.*

Another interesting article appeared in the Birmingham Journal on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 1857. It said:-

*Whoever has lost a brinded Greyhound dog may, by describing the marks and paying expenses, have the dog again on application to Mr William Betts, Old Sun Inn, Sutton Coldfield.*

The description 'Brinded' means having a streaky or patchy pattern, usually grey or brown in colour and used especially to describe the skin or fur of animals.

It would be interesting to know how the Licensee of the Old Sun came into the possession of the Greyhound in question. Was it just lost and found wandering the nearby streets or perhaps its owner, being slightly inebriated at the time of leaving the public house, did not notice he had left his dog behind. Or perhaps the dog, attracted by the aroma of food emanating from the hostelry decided to investigate further!

Greyhounds evolved from a form of hunting called 'coursing'. This was when the dog ran after live game, usually a rabbit or hare. The greyhound uses sight and speed rather than scent to catch its prey. Coursing was regarded as a sport by both the landed gentry and commoners and so the dogs would have been quite familiar and frequently seen at the time. For the ordinary people, of course, anything caught was always a welcome source of meat to supplement the diet.

Sporting activities were often used as pub names and the 'Greyhound', the 'Fox & Hounds', 'Dog & Duck' and 'Hare & Hounds' can still be commonly seen today. It is said that the greyhound was King Henry VIII's favourite breed of hunting dog.

An interesting photograph below taken, it is thought, around the 1870's shows a man, with his faithful greyhound by his side, standing on the dam.



**Looking up towards Mill Street from the Parade.  
Note the man with greyhound in centre of photograph.**



## **THE 'OLD SUN' PUBLIC HOUSE (Continued)**

There is a public house in Short Lane, Erdington that continues to bear the name the 'Greyhound', as a poignant reminder of days gone by.



**The 'Greyhound' Public House.**

The naming of pubs became common in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and, with pub names, came pub signs, as the majority of the population at the time could not read or write. In 1393, King Richard III passed an Act making it compulsory for pubs and inns to have a sign, in order to identify them to the official Ale Taster!

Between the years 1880 and 1937, just prior to the 'Old Sun' being pulled down to make way for Vesey Gardens, there were many other changes to the licensees. Clarification on these changes can be obtained by referring to the detailed 'List of Licensees' at the end of this research.

One small point of interest to conclude the story of the 'Old Sun' is that, in 1937, the year it was demolished, George Edward Stanier, the landlord of the 'Royal Oak, the other public house to meet a similar fate, was noted as being the last licensee. It may have been only for a few months, a few weeks or even a few days, but he was obviously entrusted to see out the two public houses' final hours, which must have been an extremely sad moment for him, with one era about to end and a new one about to begin.



**The 'Old Sun' Inn, viewed from Coleshill Street, looking in the direction of High Street 1869.**



**LIST OF THE LICENSEES AT THE 'OLD SUN' INN,  
COLESHILL STREET, SUTTON COLDFIELD**

**NOTE:** This list was produced by Kate Kendall in her article on the 'Old Sun' in Proceedings Volume 2 – Summer 1993. Supplementary information was obtained via Roger Lea's 'History Spot Article No 138.

Any subsequent additional notes to the list were made by Keith Jordan and are marked in RED.

1809	Thomas Alldridge and Owner
1810	Thomas Alldridge “ “
1811	Thomas Alldridge “ “
1812	Thomas Alldridge “ “
1813	Thomas Alldridge “ “
1814	Thomas Alldridge “ “
1815	Thomas Alldridge “ “
1816	Thomas Alldridge “ “
1818	Thomas Alldridge “ “
1818	Thomas Alldridge “ “
1819	William Alldridge “ “
1820	<b>Between 1820 and 1834 it is not known precisely how long William Alldridge remained in charge of the 'Old Sun' and when control was transferred over to Alice Alldridge.</b>
1821	<b>William Alldridge/Alice Alldridge</b>
1822	<b>William Alldridge/Alice Alldridge</b>
1823	<b>William Alldridge/Alice Alldridge</b>
1824	<b>William Alldridge/Alice Alldridge</b>
1825	<b>William Alldridge/Alice Alldridge</b>
1826	<b>William Alldridge/Alice Alldridge</b>
1827	<b>William Alldridge/Alice Alldridge</b>
1828	<b>William Alldridge/Alice Alldridge</b>
1829	<b>William Alldridge/Alice Alldridge</b>
1830	<b>William Alldridge/Alice Alldridge</b>
1831	<b>William Alldridge/Alice Alldridge</b>
1832	<b>William Alldridge/Alice Alldridge</b>
1833	<b>William Alldridge/Alice Alldridge</b>
1834	<b>William Alldridge/Alice Alldridge</b>
1835	<b>Alice Alldridge (Pigot's Directory)</b>
1836	<b>It is reasonable to assume Alice Alldridge was the Licensee.</b>
1837	<b>Alice Alldridge and Owner</b>
1838	<b>Alice Alldridge “ “</b>
1839	<b>Alice Alldridge “ “</b>
1840	<b>Alice Alldridge “ “</b>
1841	<b>John Alldridge (1841 Census Return)</b>
1842	<b>Reasonable to presume John Alldridge (Son of Alice Alldridge) was the Licensee</b>
1843	<b>John Alldridge “ “</b>
1844	<b>John Alldridge “ “</b>
1845	<b>John Alldridge (The Poor Rate Book for this year mentions John Alldridge as the Owner &amp; Occupier of a Beer House)</b>
1846	<b>Reasonable to presume John Alldridge was still the Licensee.</b>
1847	<b>John Alldridge “ “</b>
1848	<b>John Alldridge and Owner</b>
1849	<b>John Alldridge “ “</b>
1850	<b>John Alldridge “ “</b> <b>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions John Alldridge as being an Innkeeper and Maltster of the 'Old Sun').</b> <b>Note also the slightly different and correct spelling of the name Alldridge.)</b>
1851	<b>John Alldridge “ “</b>
1852	<b>John Alldridge “ “</b>
1853	<b>John Alldridge “ “</b>

## THE 'OLD SUN' PUBLIC HOUSE (Continued)

1854	John Alldridge “ “ <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions John Alldridge as being associated with the 'Old Sun'. It is safe to assume therefore that he was the Licensee between the above dates also.)</i>
1855	John Alldridge “ “ <i>(Aris's Birmingham Gazette included an article to confirm that the 'Old Sun' was to be sold via public auction on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 1855 which, for many years past had been in the occupation of Mr John Alldridge.)</i>
1856	<i>William Goodwin (William Goodwin was mentioned in a Conveyance involving the 'Old Sun'. His occupation was noted as a Publican). It would appear he was also the Owner, according to Roger Lea in his 'History Spot' article in the Sutton Coldfield Observer dated 14<sup>th</sup> January 2011.</i>
1857	William Betts
1858	William Betts
1859	No Record – <i>Presume William Betts.</i>
1860	No Record – <i>Presume William Betts</i>
1861	William Betts
1862	William Betts
1863	William Betts
1864	William Betts
1865	William Betts
1866	William Betts <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions William Betts as being associated with the 'Old Sun'.)</i>
1867	William Betts
1868	William Betts <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions William Betts as being associated with the 'Old Sun'. It is safe to assume therefore he was the Licensee for 1867 also.)</i>
1869	Henry Foden
1870	Henry Foden
1871	Henry Foden
1872	Henry Foden/Mrs Maria Foden <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions Mrs Maria Foden as being associated with the 'Old Sun'.)</i> <i>(Her husband Henry Foden died on the 10<sup>th</sup> July 1872 and his wife took over. <a href="http://www.archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com">www.archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com</a>).</i>
1873	Mrs Maria Foden/Charles Kemp. <i>Mrs Maria Foden during the year was re-married to a Mr Charles Kemp. <a href="http://www.archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com">www.archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com</a>).</i>
1874	Charles Kemp. Thomas Holbeche became the new Owner. <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions Charles Kemp as being the Innkeeper of the 'Old Sun'.)</i> <i>(Mrs Maria Kemp nee Foden died on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1874. <a href="http://www.rchiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com">www.rchiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com</a>. According to White's Directory for 1874 she went bankrupt at the end of 1873.)</i>
1875	Charles Kemp. <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for 1875-1877 mentions Charles Kemp as being the Innkeeper of the 'Old Sun'.)</i>
1876	Charles Kemp.
1877	Charles Kemp.
1878	Charles Kemp.
1879	No Record - <i>Presume Charles Kemp</i>
1880	James Pittam. Thomas Holbeche leased the 'Old Sun' to The Holt Brewery, Holt Street, Aston. <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions James Pittam as being associated with the 'Old Sun'.)</i>
1881	James Pittam
1882	James Pittam
1883	James Pittam
1884	James Pittam

## THE 'OLD SUN' PUBLIC HOUSE (Continued)

1885	James Pittam
1886	James Pittam
1887	James Pittam
1888	Thomas Smith <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions Thomas Smith as being associated with the 'Old Sun'.)</i> <i>(Also White's Directory for the same year.)</i>
1889	<i>Mrs Esther Duncalfe (Legal papers contained in two boxes relating to the 'Old Sun' Inn. Sutton Coldfield Library, Local Studies Section. Ref: QSH 34.4)</i>
1890	Frederick Careless <i>(The name of Frederick Careless appears on the Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year but with no address mentioned. Perhaps it can be assumed he was associated with the 'Old Sun')</i>
1891	Frederick Careless <i>(Census Return for 1891 mentions Frederick Careless as being the Manager.)</i>
1892	Frederick Careless <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions Frederick Careless as being associated with the 'Old Sun'.)</i>
1893	Frederick Careless
1894	Frederick Careless/Allen Gunnell <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Poor Rate Book for 1894 mentions that both Frederick Careless and Allen Gunnell were associated with the 'Old Sun'. This supposes that sometime during the period in question a change of Licensee occurred.)</i>
1895	Allen Gunnell <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Burgess Roll for 1892-95 mentions that for the year 1895 Allen Gunnell was associated with the 'Old Sun'.)</i>
1896	Allen Gunnell <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Burgess Roll for 1896-99 mentions that for the year 1896 Allen Gunnell was associated with the 'Old Sun'.)</i>
1897	Allen Gunnell <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Burgess Roll for 1896-99 mentions that for the year 1897 Allen Gunnell was associated with the 'Old Sun'.)</i>
1898	Allen Gunnell <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Burgess Roll for 1896-99 mentions that for the year 1898 Allen Gunnell was associated with the 'Old Sun'.)</i>
1899	Holt Brewery Company. <i>(The Sutton Coldfield General Rate Book for 1899 mentions that the Holt Brewery Company was associated with the 'Old Sun' as Owners).</i>
1900	Edward John Bird Martin & Richard Clay <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions Edward John Bird Martin as being associated with the 'Old Sun').</i>
1901	Enoch Tidmarsh <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions Enoch Tidmarsh as being associated with the Old Sun Inn'.)</i>
1902	Enoch Tidmarsh <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Burgess Roll for 1900-03 mentions Enoch Tidmarsh as being associated with the 'Old Sun' Inn).</i>
1903	Enoch Tidmarsh <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Burgess Roll for 1900-03 mentions Enoch Tidmarsh as being associated with the 'Old Sun' Inn).</i>
1904	Enoch Tidmarsh <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Burgess Roll for 1904-05 mentions Enoch Tidmarsh for the year 1904 as being associated with the 'Sun Inn').</i>
1905	Enoch Tidmarsh <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Burgess Roll for 1904-05 mentions Enoch Tidmarsh for the year 1905 as being associated with the 'Sun Inn').</i>
1906	No Record
1907	Henry Stephens <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Burgess Roll for 1907-09 mentions Henry Stephens for the year 1907 as being associated with the 'Sun Inn').</i>

## **THE 'OLD SUN' PUBLIC HOUSE (Continued)**

1908	Henry Stephens <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions Henry Stephens as being associated with the 'Old Sun'.)</i> <i>also</i> <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Burgess Roll for 1907-09 mentions Henry Stephens for the year 1908 as being associated with the 'Sun Inn'.)</i>
1909	Henry Stephens <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Burgess Roll for 1909-10 mentions Henry Stephens as being associated with the 'Sun Inn'.)</i>
1910	Henry Stephens/William Smith
1911	William Smith
1912	William Smith
1913	William Smith <i>(This is confirmed on the internet – <a href="http://www.sutton-coldfield.net/commerce/html">www.sutton-coldfield.net/commerce/html</a> and the Sutton Coldfield Burgess Roll.)</i>
1914	William Smith
1915	William Smith
1916	William Smith <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions William Smith as being associated with the 'Old Sun'.)</i>
1917	William Smith/George Forrest
1918	George Forrest <i>(Sutton Coldfield Voters Register)</i>
1919	George Forrest <i>(Sutton Coldfield Voters Register)</i>
1920	George Forest <i>(Register of Electors)</i>
1921	George Forrest <i>(Register of Electors)</i>
1922	Francis James Brown <i>(Register of Electors)</i>
1923	William Price <i>(Register of Electors)</i>
1924	Alfred Marson & John Steven Oldrey <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions John Stevens Oldrey as being associated with the 'Old Sun'.)</i>
1925	Albert Edward Morrall <i>(The Register of Electors for this year mentions Albert Edward Morrall as being associated with the 'Old Sun' Inn.)</i>
1926	Edwin Philip Noble <i>(Register of Electors)</i>
1927	Edwin Philip Noble <i>(Register of Electors)</i>
1928	Edwin Philip Noble <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions Edwin Philip Noble as being associated with the 'Old Sun'.)</i>
1929	<i>Edwin Philip Noble</i> /William Henry Billings
1930	Minton Edwin Toddington <i>(The Register of Electors for this year mentions Minton Edwin Toddington as being associated with the 'Old Sun' Inn).</i>
1931	Clarence Clinton Daft <i>(The Register of Electors for this year mentions Clarence Clinton Daft as being associated with the 'Old Sun' Inn).</i>
1932	Clarence Clinton Daft <i>(Ditto as above.)</i>
1933	Alfred Pilkington <i>(The Register of Electors for this year mentions Alfred Pilkington as being associated with the 'Old Sun' Inn).</i>
1934	Alfred Pilkington <i>(Ditto as Above)</i>
1935	Alfred Pilkington <i>(Ditto as Above)</i>
1936-37	Alfred Pilkington <i>(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions Alfred Pilkington as being associated with the 'Old Sun'.)</i>

## **THE 'OLD SUN' PUBLIC HOUSE (Continued)**

- 1937-38** Claude Alfred Pilkington/George Edward Stanier.  
*(The Sutton Coldfield Directory for this year mentions Alfred Pilkington as being associated with the 'Old Sun', together with George Edward Stanier of the 'Royal Oak').*
- 1938-39** No Record. *(No mention of the 'Old Sun', which had then been demolished to make way for Vesey Gardens).*

**CHRONOLOGY OF PARTIES INVOLVED IN A LEGAL NATURE WITH THE  
'OLD SUN' INN, COLESHILL STREET, SUTTON COLDFIELD.**

<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>Month</u></b>	<b><u>Individuals</u></b>
1646	30 <sup>th</sup> Dec	John Hill the elder, William Penne, John Penne, William William Wyley. <b>(Feoffment – a deed conferring the right of next party to sell or leave to heirs – a gift)</b>
1703	2 <sup>nd</sup> Apr	Joseph Roe, Elizabeth Roe, Adrian Cockersall. <b>(Indenture of Feoffment)</b>
1706	2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	John Wyley, Adrian Cockersall. <b>(Indenture i.e. lease)</b>
1710	2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Thomas Cockersall, Ann Cockersall, Edward Waldron, Susannah Waldron, Edward Waldron the Younger, William Kendrick. <b>(Counterpart Indenture)</b>
1729	17 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Thomas Cockersall, Mary Whitehurst, James Mouseley. <b>(Indenture)</b>
1751	14 <sup>th</sup> Oct	William Lambley (Plaintiff), Thomas Cockersall, Mary Cockersall (Defendants) <b>(Chirograph of fine levied – medieval term for a deed to convey land)</b>
1751	2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Thomas Cockersall, Mary Cockersall, Abraham Outon, William Lambley. <b>(Indenture of Release)</b>
1771	9 <sup>th</sup> June	Abraham Outon. <b>(Copy Probate with mention of Will)</b>
1778		Francis Daniel (Plaintiff), John Aldridge, Hannah Aldridge, John James, Sarah James and Ann Outon (Defendants) <b>(Chirographs of fine )</b>
1794	27 <sup>th</sup> May	Francis Daniel, John Aldridge, Hannah Aldridge, John James, Sarah James, Ann Outon. <b>(Indentures of lease and release)</b>
1794		Richard Smith in the 1 <sup>st</sup> part, John Aldridge, Hannah Aldridge, John James, Sarah James, Thomas Symcox and Ann Symcox in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> part. <b>(Chirographs of fine)</b>
1795	26 <sup>th</sup> Mar	John Aldridge, Hannah Aldridge, John James, Sarah James, Richard Smith, Edward Milner, and W Terry. <b>(Indentures – it appears as if the above mentioned parties re-purchased from Francis Daniel for the use of Richard Smith. Another property with pigsties and brewhouse also went to Richard Smith. Richard Smith would re-convey them back at some time in the future. At some stage, however, the above mentioned parties did not pay Richard Smith back, so he became the owner by default)</b>

## **THE 'OLD SUN' PUBLIC HOUSE (Continued)**

<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>Month</u></b>	<b><u>Individuals</u></b>
1795		Thomas Cockerill, Ann Outon.  John Aldridge, John James, Richard Smith.
1798		John Aldridge, Hannah Aldridge, John James, Sarah James, Richard Smith, William Bayliss.
1809		Thomas Aldridge, John James, Richard Smith.
1817		John Aldridge, Hannah Aldridge, John James, Sarah James, Ann Outon.
1819		Thomas Aldridge, Charles Aldridge, William Taylor.
1833		William Hurdman, Richard Hurdman, John Redfirn, Rebecca Redfirn, Thomas Studholme Wilkins.
1844		Thomas Studholme Wilkins, George Wilkins, Edward Sadler, John Aldridge.
1855		John Aldridge, Edward Sadler, John Buggins, Robert Honeyborne Rochford.
1856		Edward Sadler, John Buggins, Robert Honeyborne Rochford, Thomas Vincent Holbeche, Henry Addenbroke, William Goodwin, William Brentnall, Thomas Aldridge (deceased).
1858		Edward Milner, William Goodwin, William Brentnall.
1864		Robert Honeyborne Rochford, Caleb Foden, Thomas Hacket.
1869		William Goodwin (Last Will & Testament).
1875		Joseph Goodwin, George Augustine Wells, Thomas Vincent Holbeche, Farrand Hall, William John Haynes, Mr Morris, Tom Hardy, Lewis Gallimore, Charles Edward Chavasse, Benjamin Whitehouse.
1878		Caleb Foden, Thomas Vincent Holbeche, William Betts, Charles Kent
1890		Thomas Vincent Holbeche, G Betts, Holt Brewery Co. Ltd., Esther Duncalfe, Walter Woodcroft, Mrs McKnight.
1897		Thomas Vincent Holbeche, Lichfield Brewery Co., Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.
1899		Independent Order of Oddfellows, Nathaniel Lawrence, Farrand Hall, Lewis Gallimore, William John Haynes, Thomas Vincent Holbeche, Charles Edward Chavasse, Benjamin Whitehouse.
1900		George Robinson, Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.
1914		Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.
1920		Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.



**The following information on the ‘Old Sun’ Inn was obtained from two boxes of legal papers issued between 1751 and 1899. Sutton Coldfield Library Ref: QSH 34.4**

<u>Ref. No.</u>	<u>Description.</u>	<u>Date.</u>	<u>Names.</u>
1.	Conveyance	02/Nov/1751	<b>Thomas Cockersall &amp; Ann Outon</b> selling to <b>Abraham Outon</b> in respect of property attached to and adjoining the churchyard.
	Release	02/Nov/1751	Ditto as above.
2.	Release	28/May/1794	<b>John Aldridge, John James</b> (Farmer), <b>Mr Symcox &amp; Richard Smith</b> (Innkeeper).
3.	Mortgage	26/Mar/1795	<b>John Aldridge &amp; John James</b> (Farmer) to <b>Richard Smith</b> (Innkeeper).
4b.	Release	01/Oct/1817	<b>John Aldridge, Hannah Aldridge, John James</b> (Farmer), <b>Sarah James and Ann Outon</b> .
5.			Nothing of Interest
6.	Release	06/Jul/1798	<b>John Aldridge</b> (in the occupation of <b>William Bayliss</b> ) A Conveyance is mentioned dated 30/Dec/1646 – <b>John Hall</b> the elder to <b>William Penne, William Wiley and John Penne</b> . also Indenture dated 02/Apr/1703 between <b>Elizabeth Roe and Joseph Roe</b> in the 1 <sup>st</sup> part and <b>Adrian Cockershall</b> .
7b.	Release	06/Jul/1798	<b>John Aldridge, John James</b> (Farmer) and wives and <b>Richard Smith</b> (Innkeeper).
8.	Lease & Indenture	17/Oct/1809	<b>Richard Smith</b> (Innkeeper) and <b>John James</b> (Farmer) in the 1 <sup>st</sup> part and <b>Thomas Aldridge</b> (Victualler).
9.	Re-conveyance & Release	18/Oct/1809	<b>Richard Smith</b> (Innkeeper) in the 1 <sup>st</sup> part, <b>John James</b> (Farmer) in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> part and <b>Thomas Aldridge</b> (Victualler)
10.	Will & Testament	26/Jul/1819	<b>Thomas Aldridge</b> bequeaths all his real leasehold and personal estate to his brother <b>Charles Aldridge and William Taylor</b> . Stable/Coal House/Pigsty/ and Garden Hereditaments known as the ‘Sun’ Public House.
11a.	Indenture	14/Jul/1833	<b>William Hurdman</b> (Tailor), <b>Richard Hurdman</b> (Tailor), <b>John Redfurn</b> (Potter) and <b>Rebecca Redfurn</b> (Wife) and <b>Thomas Wilkins</b> (Maltster).
11b.	Release	15/Jul/1833	<b>Thomas Wilkins</b> (Maltster).
12.	Release	18/Oct/1841	<b>George Bayliss</b> of Hill Hook in the 1 <sup>st</sup> part and <b>Thomas Wilkins</b> (Maltster) in the other part.
13.	Indenture	06/May/1844	<b>Richard Hurdman</b> of Alrewas in the 1 <sup>st</sup> part, <b>Thomas Studholme Wilkins</b> (Sadler) and <b>George Wilkins</b> (Butcher).
14.			Nothing of Interest
15.	Conveyance	21/Dec/1844	<b>Thomas Studholme Wilkins</b> (Maltster) and <b>George Wilkins</b> (Butcher) to <b>Edward Sadler</b> (Spirit Merchant) and <b>John Aldridge</b> (Innkeeper).
16.	Abstract of Title	11/Nov/1844	The late <b>Thomas Studholme Wilkins</b> (Maltster).
17.	Release of Assignment	26/Oct/1855	<b>John Aldridge</b> (Innkeeper) to <b>Edward Sadler</b> (Spirit Merchant), <b>John Buggins</b> (Farmer) and <b>Robert Honeyborne Rochford</b> (Farmer & Maltster).

## **Information contained in two boxes of legal papers (Continued)**

18.	Conveyance	15/Feb/1856	<b>Edward Sadler</b> (Spirit Merchant), <b>John Buggins</b> (Farmer) and Robert Honeyborne Rochford (Farmer & Maltster) in the 1 <sup>st</sup> part, <b>Vincent Holbeche</b> and <b>Henry Addenbrooke</b> (Solicitors), <b>William Goodwin</b> (Publican) and <b>William Brentnall</b> (Clock and Watchmaker), now that <b>Thomas Aldridge</b> (Victualler) is deceased.
19.	Conveyance	17/Jun/1858	<b>Edward Milner</b> of Bloxwich, <b>William Goodwin</b> (Publican) and <b>William Brentnall</b> (Clock and Watchmaker).
20.	Abstract of Title	1858	<b>Edward Milner</b> , in respect of two messuages and Outbuildings in Coleshill Street NOTE: The Abstract of Title includes a Schedule with dates going back to 1646.
21.			Nothing of Interest
22.	Conveyance	04/Oct/1864	Malthouse, Dwelling House & Hereditaments and Premises between <b>Robert Honeyborne Rochford</b> (Farmer and Maltster) in the 1 <sup>st</sup> part, <b>Caleb Foden</b> (Farmer) in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> part and <b>Thomas Hackett</b> in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> part.
23.	Abstract of Title	21/Dec/1844	Devises in Trust for sale under the Will of the late <b>Edward Sadler</b> (Spirit Merchant) to a Malthouse, Dwelling House & Premises by Indenture of the late <b>Thomas Studholme Wilkins</b> (Maltster), <b>George Wilkins</b> (Butcher), <b>John Aldridge</b> (Innkeeper) and <b>Edward Sadler</b> (Spirit Merchant).
24.			Nothing of Interest
25.	Probate of Will and Codicil	1869	<b>William Goodwin</b> of the 'Hawthorn Bush' Inn, New Oscott.
26.	Conveyance	23/Apr/1875	<b>Joseph Goodwin</b> , of Perry Barr (Builder), <b>George Augustine Wells</b> of Perry Barr (Farmer) and <b>Thomas Holbeche</b> following <b>William Goodwin's</b> death, his five children being:- <b>George Goodwin</b> , <b>Joseph Goodwin</b> , <b>Sarah Foden</b> , <b>Mary Ann Wells</b> and <b>Thomas Goodwin</b> .
27.	Mortgage	24/Apr/1875	<b>Thomas Vincent Holbeche</b> (Solicitor), Trustees: <b>Farrand Hall</b> (Post Messenger), <b>William John Haynes</b> (Painter), <b>Mr Morris</b> , <b>Tom Hardy</b> , <b>Lewis Gallimore</b> (Gardener) and <b>Charles Edward Chavasse</b> and <b>Benjamin Whitehouse</b> .
27.	Transfer of Mortgage	24/Apr/1884	<b>Thomas Vincent Holbeche</b> (Solicitor), Trustees: <b>Farrand Hall</b> (Post Messenger), <b>William John Haynes</b> (Painter), <b>Mr Morris</b> , <b>Tom Hardy</b> , <b>Lewis Gallimore</b> (Gardener) and <b>Charles Edward Chavasse</b> (Wine Merchant) and <b>Benjamin Whitehouse</b> (Ironmaster) of Turls Hill, Woodsetton, Nr: Dudley.
28.	Conveyance	26/Feb/1878	<b>Caleb Foden</b> (Farmer) and <b>Thomas Vincent Holbeche</b> (Solicitor). Malthouse and Dwelling House. It mentioned in the Conveyance that they were previously in the occupation of <b>William Betts</b> , but now occupied by <b>Charles Kemp</b> .
29.	Fire Ins Policy	17/Aug/1878	Fire Insurance Policy issued by the Lancashire Insurance Company for the sum insured of £300.0.0d, in the name of <b>Thomas Vincent Holbeche</b> (Solicitor), in respect of the building being a private dwelling house with void rooms (formerly a Malthouse) in the tenure of <b>G Betts</b> .
30.			Nothing of Interest
31a.			Nothing of Interest

## **Information contained in two boxes of legal papers (Continued)**

31b.	Assignment of leasehold premises	03/Apr/1890	Lessor: <b>Thomas Vincent Holbeche</b> (Solicitor). Lessees: <b>The Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.</b> The premises being situated in Coleshill Street and known as the 'Old Sun' Inn, together with two cottages adjoining to the <b>Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.</b> The 'Old Sun' Inn in the occupation of <b>Esther Duncalfe, Walter Woodcroft and Mrs McKnight.</b>
32.	Assignment of leasehold premises	25/Mar/1890	Ditto as above, for a term of 14 years at an annual rent of £65.0.0d. to Mr Thomas Vincent Holbeche (Solicitor).
33.	Letters between parties.	May-June 1897	Correspondence between Smith, Pinsent & Co. (on behalf of <b>Thomas Vincent Holbeche</b> ), the <b>Lichfield Brewery Company</b> and the <b>Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.</b> , regarding the pulling down and re-building of a boundary wall.
34.			Nothing of Interest
35.			Nothing of Interest
36.	Corn Rent Redemption		Regarding 8, 10 & 12 Coleshill Street – the 'Old Sun' Inn. Paid by <b>Thomas Vincent Holbeche</b> (Solicitor) in the amount of £1. 4s. 10d (according to the area of the holding).
37.	Abstract of Title	26/Feb/1878	<b>Thomas Vincent Holbeche</b> (Solicitor) to freehold property situate in Coleshill Street.
	Indenture		<b>Caleb Foden</b> (Farmer) of Perry Barr in the 1 <sup>st</sup> part and <b>Thomas Vincent Holbeche</b> (Solicitor) on the other part.
		04/Oct/1864	<b>Robert Honeyborne Rochford</b> (Farmer) and <b>James Turner</b> in the 1 <sup>st</sup> part. <b>Caleb Foden</b> (Farmer) in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> part and <b>Thomas Hackett</b> in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> part. Malthouse and Dwellinghouse Yard, bounded in front by Coleshill Street, at the other end or back of a stable the property of <b>Thomas Vincent Holbeche</b> (Solicitor). In the occupation of <b>William Betts</b> and <b>George Betts.</b>
		21/Aug/1895	<b>Thomas Betts.</b>
		03/Apr/1890	<b>The Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.</b> and <b>Thomas Vincent Holbeche</b>
		11/Dec/1884	<b>Benjamin Whitehouse</b> (Ironmaster) and <b>Charles Edward Chavasse</b> (Wine Merchant) in the 1 <sup>st</sup> part, <b>Thomas Vincent Holbeche</b> (Solicitor) in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> part and <b>N Lawrence</b> (Schoolmaster), <b>Farrand Hall</b> (Post Messenger), <b>Lewis Gallimore</b> (Gardener) and <b>William John Haynes</b> (Painter) in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> part.
		24/Apr/1875	<b>Thomas Vincent Holbeche</b> (Solicitor) in the 1 <sup>st</sup> part, <b>Benjamin Whitehouse</b> (Ironmaster), <b>Mr Dudley</b> and <b>Charles Edward Chavasse</b> (Wine Merchant) in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> part.
		23/Apr/1875	<b>Joseph Goodwin</b> (Builder) of Perry Barr and <b>George Augustine Wells</b> (Farmer) in the 1 <sup>st</sup> part and <b>Thomas Vincent Holbeche</b> (Solicitor) in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> part.
38.			Nothing of Interest
39.	Declaration	21/Sep/1899	between the Trustees of the Loyal Band of Hope Lodge No. 1172 of the Birmingham District Branch of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Manchester Unity Friendly Society. The Trustees being:- <b>Benjamin Whitehouse</b> (Ironmaster) and <b>Charles Edward Chavasse</b> (Wine Merchant) in the 1 <sup>st</sup> part, <b>Thomas Vincent Holbeche</b> (Solicitor) in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> part and <b>Farrand Hall</b> (Post Messenger), <b>Lewis Gallimore</b> (Gardener), <b>Nataniel Lawrence</b> (Schoolmaster) and <b>William John Haynes</b> (Painter) in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> part. and <b>The Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.</b>

### **Information contained in two boxes of legal papers (Continued)**

40.	Notice to quit	03/Sep/1900	to <b>Mr George Robinson</b> (tenant of the stable at the back of or adjoining to the yard of the Sun Inn on behalf of <b>The Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.</b> Delivered to his house and shop in Mill Street.
41.	Agreement to 'Right of Light'	06/Oct/1914	<b>The Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.</b>
42.	Letter	25/Feb/1920	from <b>The Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.</b> to Messrs. Pinsent & Co. regarding 'right of way' charge.
43.			Nothing of Interest

## **THE ‘OLD SUN’ PUBLIC HOUSE (Continued)**

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Birmingham Journal dated 7<sup>th</sup> March 1857  
**Photographs** (all taken from Keith Jordan's Photographic Collection)  
View of the ‘Old Sun’ Inn from the High Street Circa 1890.  
Drawing of the ‘Old Sun’ Inn.  
Dog Cart Circa 1860's.  
Advertisement for the Holt Brewery Company Limited Circa 1890.  
Looking up towards Mill Street from the Parade.  
The ‘Greyhound’ Public House.  
The ‘Old Sun’ Inn, viewed from Coleshill Street and looking in the direction of High Street Circa 1869.

### **Maps**

25 inch Survey Map 1886 enlarged to scale 1:1250. Norman Granville Evans 1979.

### **Lists**

List of Licensees at the ‘Old Sun’ Inn, Coleshill Street, Sutton Coldfield.  
Cronology of parties involved in a legal nature with the ‘Old Sun’ Inn compiled by Janet Jordan.  
List of legal documents issued between 1751 and 1920 contained in two boxes. Sutton Coldfield Library, Local Studies Section Ref: QSH 34.4.