

# Cross o'th' Hand and the Stone Tenement, High Street, Sutton Coldfield

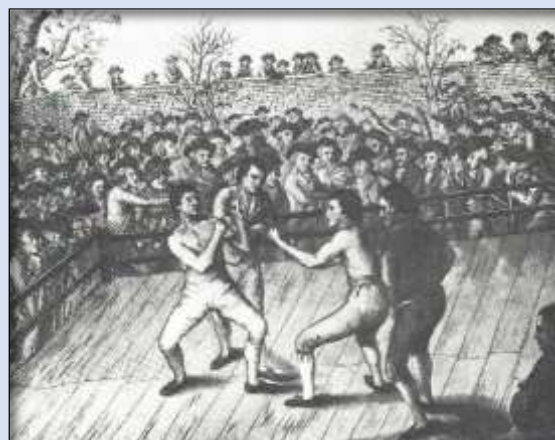
by Janet Jordan

## Cross o'th' Hand

It was whilst searching through the 1742 Corporation Rentals, now held at Birmingham Central Library, Archives Department, for a property in Great Sutton (i.e. the High Street, Sutton Coldfield), that I first came across the description of a large piece of land there called *Cross o'th' hand*. This was the name given to a certain close in the town, and it was recorded in the Rentals that the Heirs of a Mr Thomas Cooper were paying a yearly rent to the Corporation (i.e. the Warden & Society) of £0.0.4d for the land. I wondered about the significance of its strange name and where this close was likely to be.

The internet gave the following suggestions as to the possible origin of any place called *Cross o'th' hand*.

1. *Cross o'th' Hands* is the name of a small area of settlement in Derbyshire, England, 10 miles (16 km) north-west of Derby on the A517 road between Hulland and Turnditch. The settlement is named after its original public house, near a gravel pit used for staging bare-knuckle fist fights, which was probably itself named after the sport. [Cross o' th' Hands - Wikipedia](#)



2. *Cross-in-Hand* is also a village in East Sussex at the junction of the A267 running between Royal Tunbridge Wells and Eastbourne and the B2102, which terminates in *Cross-in-Hand* but joins the A22 in Uckfield. The English Place-Name Society gives the earliest reference to this village as *Cruce Manus*, the Latin for Cross-in-Hand, recorded in 1547, which by 1597 was being rendered *Crosse atte Hand* and by 1656 was being called *Crosse in the Hande*. The name is believed to be based on a legend that Crusaders assembled here before sailing for the Holy Land from Rye to fight Saladin.
3. Another explanation is that it is the place where some murderers managed to escape their pursuers by turning to face them with a cross in their hands. [Cross-in-Hand - Wikipedia](#)

As far as Sutton Coldfield is concerned, there is a lane, called *Cross in the Hand Lane*, running between Farewell and Lichfield, Staffordshire and, bearing in mind that a small Benedictine nunnery was founded in Farewell in the Middle Ages circa 1140, one wonders if the land, the subject of this article, was part of a pilgrims' route to Lichfield Cathedral, i.e. St. Chad's. Further information is given in [Farewell Staffordshire Family History Guide - Parishmouse](#)

There is another reference to the site of a mediaeval cross which stood by the *Cross in Hand*, at the end of Bacon Street, Lichfield (see [www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Monument Number 307075](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Monument%20Number%20307075)) and also <https://lichfieldlore.co.uk> both of which sites mention crosses in Lichfield – these were situated at the ends of the town. Were they boundary markers?

In Sutton Coldfield, we know the name *Cross o'th' Hand* applies to a close of land in Great Sutton from the Corporation Rentals. It seems unlikely that this was a meeting place for Crusaders embarking for the Holy Land, given Sutton Coldfield's position in the country, far from the coast. So, was it the site of an old inn or a large piece of land used as a meeting place for a fighting event? Neither option seems likely to apply. What does seem plausible is that it might be a stopping point on a pilgrimage route with Lichfield as its destination.

Alternatively, the very fact that it was near to Holy Trinity Parish Church in Great Sutton may just suggest it was an appropriate name for a nearby plot of land.

So, it seems, there is no definitive reason as to why this particular piece of land in Sutton Coldfield would be called *Cross o'th' Hand*. I thought the answer might emerge from research into its history and the following Timeline, reaching back to 1663, is the result. It has only produced an approximation of where the piece of land was situated and can only give a patchy account of who owned it, but what it has revealed is a wonderful window into Sutton Coldfield's past and shows that life has always been very busy in the town.

*Cross o'th' Hand* might be revealed in the future as a far bigger tract of land than I have managed to discover, but for the time being this small area of the High Street that it encompassed has proved what a thriving little town we had in the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

## The Stone Tenement

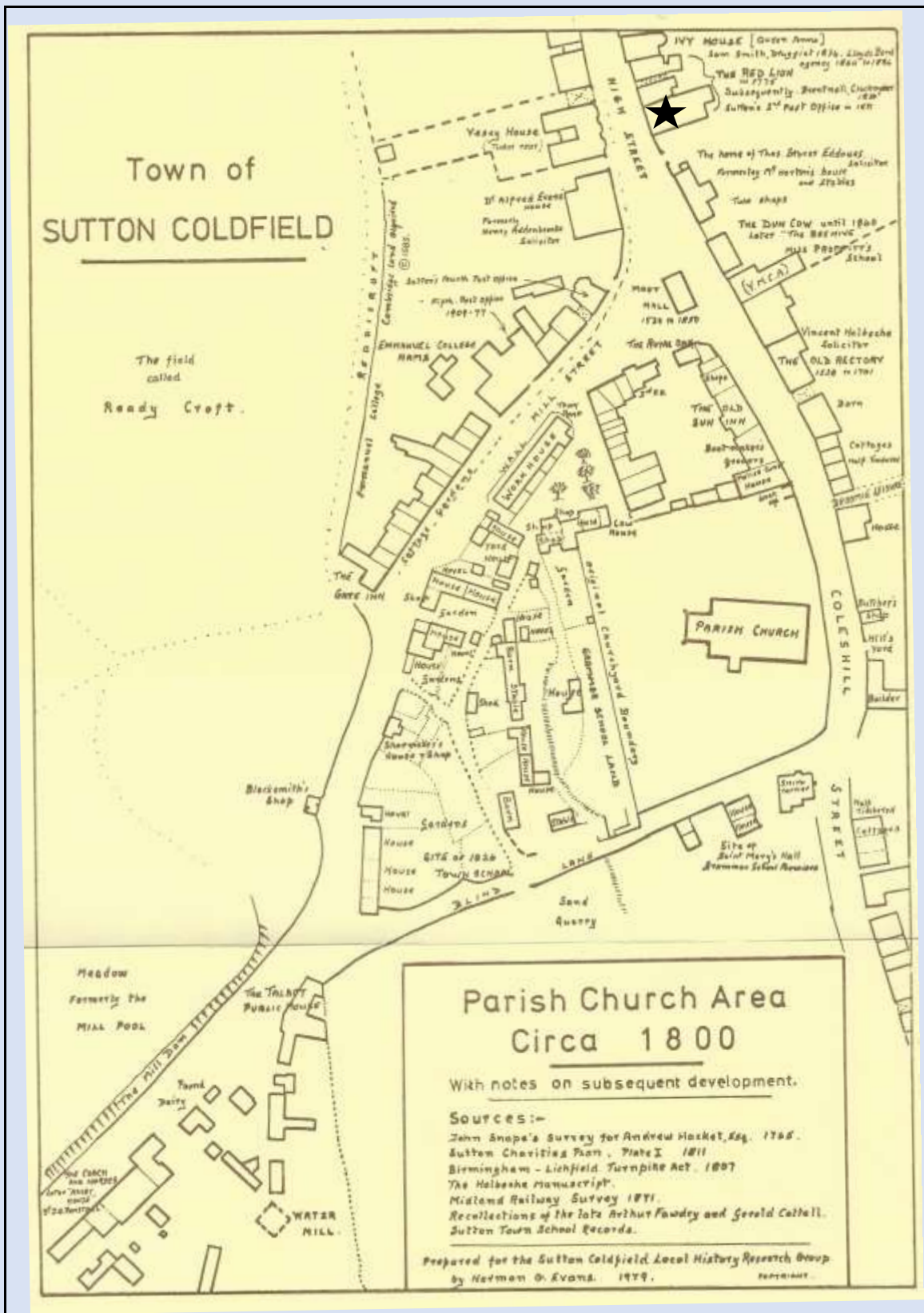
*Cross o'th' hand* and the mention of a *Stone Tenement* always seemed to be coupled together in the Corporation Rentals, which led me to believe that the building had to be on the piece of land. Unfortunately, many properties in Sutton Coldfield were recorded and described as a *Stone Tenement*, However, it is my belief that this particular one was an old inn known as the 'Red Lion' which, itself, has been frequently mentioned in written histories, newspapers and other documentation relating to the High Street, Sutton Coldfield.

I have prepared the following Timeline in an effort to gather together as many corroborating facts to prove the location of *Cross o'th'Hand* and its connection with the *Stone Tenement*.

Janet Jordan  
Sutton Coldfield Local History Research Group  
January 2026



Photo (circa 1860) taken from Sarah Holbeche's Diary (SHD), showing the High Street perimeter of the *Cross o'th' Hand* land in Sutton Coldfield and the site of the *Stone Tenement* (i.e. Red Lion Inn, being the 'White House'). The flag identifies Ivy House, Sarah Holbeche's birthplace.



Map of Sutton Coldfield prepared by Norman G. Evans, 1979 showing the suggested site of the Red Lion Inn in 1775.

## Abbreviations used in the Timeline

A	<a href="http://www.Ancestry.co.uk">www.Ancestry.co.uk</a>
AB	History of the Forest and Chase of Sutton Coldfield by Agnes Bracken, 1860 (Sutton Coldfield Library Ref: QSH 97SUT)
EPO	Bundle of Deeds loaned to Sutton Library by Eddowes Perry & Osbourne 1976:
QS	The Quarters of Sutton, a List of the Householders (1663-1674) published by the University of Birmingham, Department of Extra Mural Studies 1981, showing the Hearth Tax paid by the wealthiest householders for every hearth they owned. (Ref: QSH.39)
CR	Corporation Rentals (Great Sutton Quarter), Sutton Coldfield Library Archives and <a href="http://www.sclhrg.org.uk">www.sclhrg.org.uk</a> (Corporation Rental). Chief Rent is money paid by Freeholders to the Lord of the Manor, i.e. Warden & Society, Sutton Coldfield
CREPORTS	Coroner's Reports, Sutton Coldfield Library Archives
CRM	Corn Rent Map, Sutton Coldfield Library and <a href="http://www.sclhrg.org.uk">www.sclhrg.org.uk</a>
CRSB	Corn Rent Schedule Book Reference BCOLQ333.2094296LEA Sutton Coldfield Library and <a href="http://www.sclhrg.org.uk">www.sclhrg.org.uk</a>
BA	Birmingham Archives Library
BPI	Building Plans Index, Sutton Coldfield Library and <a href="http://www.sclhrg.org.uk">www.sclhrg.org.uk</a>
BNA	<a href="http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk">www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk</a>
WHP	William Hiorn's Plan 1762 showing ownership of Pews in Holy Trinity Parish Church <a href="http://www.sclhrg.org.uk">www.sclhrg.org.uk</a>
SCLHRG	Sutton Coldfield Local History Research Group website, <a href="http://www.sclhrg.org.uk">www.sclhrg.org.uk</a>
NA	National Archives, London Metropolitan Archives, Ref: MS1 1936/356/549369
MAP A	Shows Sutton Coldfield in 1765, reproduced by Norman Evans from a survey by John Snape for Andrew Hacket. Norman Evans Collection, Sutton Coldfield Archives
MAP B	Sutton Coldfield Circa 1800, researched and drawn by Norman Granville Evans 1980, Norman Evans Collection, Sutton Coldfield Archives
SCD	1830 Sutton Coldfield Directory, Sutton Coldfield Library (Ref SH06)
HSC	History of Sutton Coldfield by WK Riland Bedford, P59, Sutton Coldfield Library (Ref: SC97SUT)
PV	Parochial Valuation Map 1958, Sutton Coldfield Library
L&NWR	London and North Western Railway Plan, Fig 4 Drawing No. 4 dated 1880, Sutton Coldfield Local Studies Dept. Permission given by Sutton Coldfield Library to use documents from bundle of papers relating to LNWR
WMG	William Morris Grundy, <a href="http://www.sclhrg.org.uk">www.sclhrg.org.uk</a> <a href="#">William Grundy [31]</a>
P	Proceedings of Sutton Coldfield Local History Research Group, ( <a href="http://www.sclhrg.org.uk">www.sclhrg.org.uk</a> )
SCL	Sutton Coldfield Library
HTSC	Holy Trinity, Sutton Coldfield, The Story of a Parish ~Church and its People, 1250-2020, ed. Stella Thebridge, pub 2020 The History press
SHD	Sarah Holbeche Diary ( <a href="http://www.sclhrg.org.uk">www.sclhrg.org.uk</a> )
TSH	Tales of Sadler House, Kerry Osbourne, 2022, pub. Sadler House, Sutton Coldfield (P247)
SR	Suit Rolls, Sutton Coldfield Library(Ref QSH70.1)
RHD	Holbeche Diary, The, (Sutton Coldfield Library Reference Q726.50942496HOL) See also <a href="http://www.sclhrg.org.uk">www.sclhrg.org.uk</a>
C	Census Return
KD	Kelly's Directory
SCRL	Story of Sutton Coldfield, The, Roger Lea, Sutton Publishing, 2003
KO	People and Buildings of Sutton Coldfield, Volume Two, by Kerry Osbourne, published by Sadler House, Sutton Coldfield, 2024 – Page 37

# TIMELINE

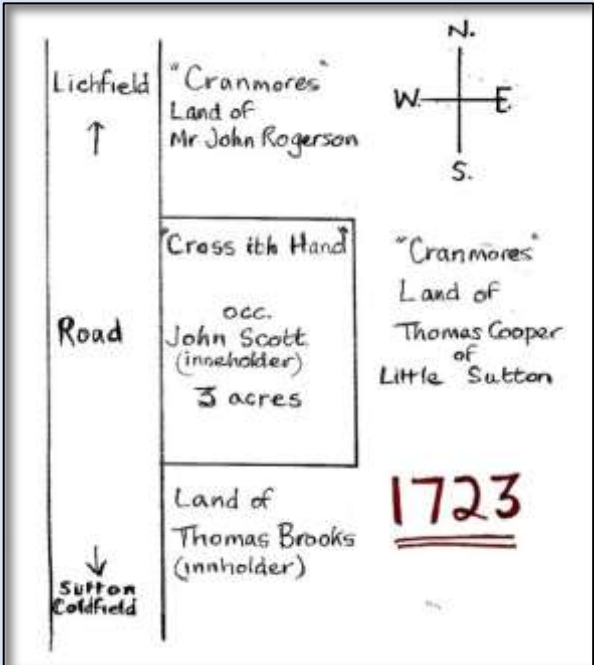
*Cross o'th' Hand* and the *Stone Tenement* are the names given in a set of ledgers called 'Corporation Rentals' to a plot of land that lay to the east side of the current High Street, Sutton Coldfield and a property believed to be situated on it. Using these and many other records, the facts in this Timeline set out to identify the position of each over a period of a couple of hundred years or so. The exact boundaries of this plot of land have not been ascertained and could be far larger than they appear in this article.

Year


Source

1650	<p><b>Conveyance – Feoffment. £90. 11.v.1650</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Gawen Grosvenor of Holt Hall co. Warwick gent.</li> <li>2. Thomas Freeman of Amington co. Warwick yeoman.</li> </ol> <p>- Cottage and close adjoining called <i>Little Crosser Hand</i> late occ. John Smith now Gawen Grosvenor.</p> <p>Witnesses Richard Beardesley, John Spooner, Robert Wright, John Savage</p>	EPO No. 187
1663	<p><b>William Pearsall, liable for 2 Hearths in Sutton Coldfield.</b> <b>Robert Rogerson liable for 5 Hearths in Sutton Coldfield</b></p>	QS
1671	<p><b>William Pearsall, value of his estate, namely <i>Cross Olk (sic) Hand</i> £2.10.0</b> <b>Robert Rogerson, value of his estate, namely <i>Cranmore</i>, £6.0.0.</b></p> <div> </div> <p style="text-align: center;"> <b>Winter Scene in Sutton Coldfield.</b>  <b>Oil on Canvas by Charles Leaver (fl. 1860-1884)</b>  <a href="http://www.CharlesLeaver.com">www.CharlesLeaver</a>   <a href="#">Winter Scene at Sutton Coldfield (1859)</a>   <a href="#">MutualArt</a> </p>	AB (p123)

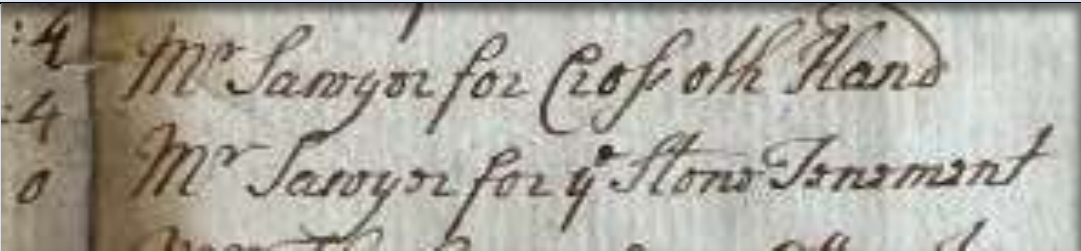
	<p>The word <i>Cranmore</i> derives from Crane Moor/Marsh. This painting is thought to show a scene just a stone's throw from the land in Sutton Coldfield known as <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> which would be in the distance. With a bit of artistic licence, the painting appears to depict land that led downwards to a brook and marshy ground at the bottom of the hill to the east of the High Street. The view would have been taken from the backs of houses in Coleshill Street, showing the downward slope. Note Holy Trinity Parish Church in the background. <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> land would be south of <i>Cranmore</i>. (see sketch in 1723)</p>	
1673 /74	<p><b>William Pearsall, liable for 2 Hearths in Great Sutton, Sutton Coldfield</b> <b>Robert Rogerson liable for 5 Hearths in Great Sutton</b></p> <p>Great Sutton was one of the Quarters of Sutton Coldfield and encompassed the High Street</p>	QS
1686	<p><b>William Pearsall buried on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1686</b> <b>Robert Rogerson died on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1686</b></p>	A
1687	<p><b>Thomas Freeman married Sarah Sadgrove on 27<sup>th</sup> November 1687</b></p> <p>Following his marriage, it is assumed that Thomas purchased <i>Cross oth Hand</i> land from William Pearsall's Estate. Thomas Freeman must have died between 1687 and 1691 – see following entry.</p>	A
1691	<p><b>Conveyance - Feoffment - £82. 11.v.1691</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. John Freeman of Amington Woodhouses co. Warwick yeoman and Mary Walton of Tamworth widow (children of Thomas Freeman deceased)</li> <li>2. Francis Clifton of Sutton Coldfield dyer.</li> </ol> <p>- cottage in Sutton Coldfield occupied by George Orton between house occupied by Francis Clifton and Thomas Clifton his brother on one side and the garden and croft belonging to the Bull Inn on the other side.</p> <p>- <i>Crosser Hand</i> occupied by Widow Rogerson adjoining <i>Cranmore Leasowes</i> on one gate thereof - (formerly occ. John Smith, lately Robert Rogerson).</p> <p>By this deed, Thomas Freeman's children conveyed <i>Crosser Hand</i> to Francis Clifton. His Tenant was Widow Rogerson, who probably owned adjoining property <i>Cranmore</i> left to her by her husband, Robert Rogerson.</p>	EPO (No.188)
1704	<p><b>Francis Clifton died. Probate dated 1704.</b></p> <p>No Probate is available, but it is assumed that a family member inherited <i>Crosser Hand</i>, i.e. Sarah Clifton – see next entry.</p>	A
1723	<p><b>Conveyance – Lease and Release.</b> <b>20-21.viii.1723</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sarah Clifton of Sutton Coldfield, spinster</li> <li>2. John Clifton of Sutton Coldfield, baker, brother of Sarah.</li> </ol>	EPO (No. 162)

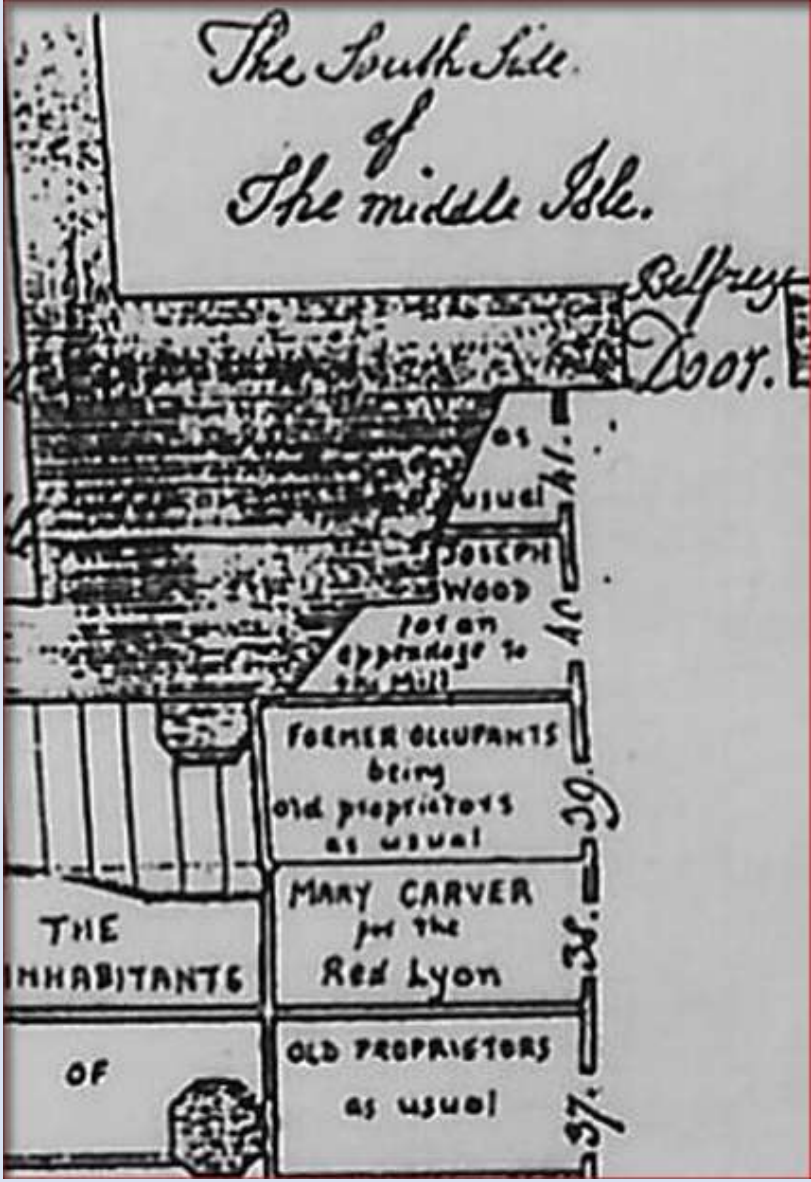
	<p>- Close called <i>Cross ith Hand</i> late occ. John Scott innholder – 3 acres – abutting land of Mr. John Rogerson called <i>Cranmores</i> on the North side or part thereof, land of Thomas Brooks innholder on the South, other land called <i>Cranmores</i> in possession or occ by Thomas Cooper of Little Sutton on the East, Road from Sutton Coldfield to Lichfield on the West.</p> <p>N.B. Three Acres is about the size of 2 football pitches.</p> <p>By this Conveyance, Sarah Clifton who owned <i>Cross ith Hand</i> (3 acres) conveyed it to her brother John Clifton, baker. John Scott, innholder, occupied it – see attached diagram.</p> <p>In 1740, the Red Lyon was referred to as the dwellinghouse of Anne Scott (presumably a relative of John Scott) in a Coroner’s Report and in 1749, a John Scott was occupier of the Red Lion inn in Sutton Coldfield, leading one to assume that the Red Lion was already in business on the land at <i>Cross ith Hand</i> in 1723. There may even have been other premises built on the land at this time.</p>		
1727	<p><b>John Clifton was buried on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1727.</b></p> <p>His Will dated 1727 is not available.</p>	A	
1738	<p><b>On 28 December 1738 Ann Bennion (later Ann Sawyer) married John Tyrer and became Ann Tyrer at Shenstone, St John the Baptist Church.</b></p> <p>She is later shown to be paying the Corporation Rent for <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> in 1781, as the widow of her second husband, John Sawyer.</p>	A	
1739	<p><b>Thomas Cooper died on 21 September 1739.</b></p> <p>His Probate dated 1739 is not available. See 1723, which shows that he had owned land at <i>Cranmores</i>, and the entry in 1742 shows that he appears to have acquired the land at <i>Cross ith Hand</i> before he died.</p>	A	
1740	<p><b>The Red Lyon is referred to as the dwellinghouse of Anne Scott in a Coroner’s Report.</b></p> <p>Also see 1723 and 1747)</p>	CReport, 78/218 Bennett	
1742	<p><b>The Heirs of Mr Thomas Cooper paying Corporation Rent for a Close called <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i>.</b></p> <p>These heirs would appear later to have sold the land at <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> to Mr Sawyer before 1757.</p> <p>This is the first of many Corporation Rental records to be found.</p>	CR	

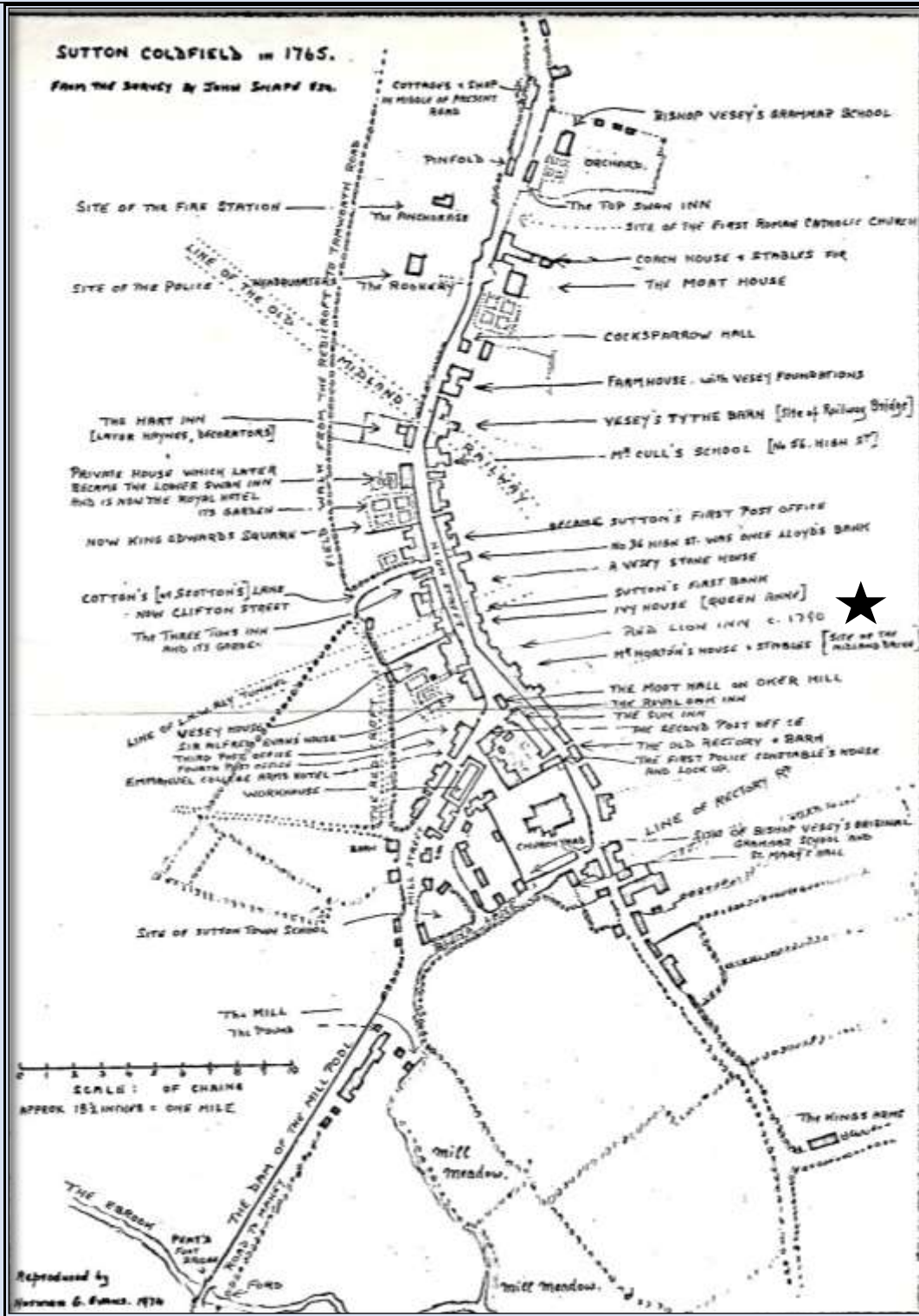
1747	<p><b>Extract relating to the Red Lion from Roger Lea's article No. 24, in 'History Spot, Warden's Choice', on Sutton Coldfield Local History Research Group's website:</b></p> <p>Wardens liked to conduct their meetings in comfort, and in the eighteenth century it was common practice to adjourn from the bleak Moot Hall to the nearest pub. The nearest pub was the Red Lion Hotel.</p> <p><b>Coroner's Inquest on March 28<sup>th</sup> 1747 at the Red Lion reported:</b></p> <p>That there had been a Parish Meeting there the previous day. At about ten o'clock at night Thomas Standley the blacksmith left the meeting to answer a call of nature. In passing through the kitchen John Parker the weaver and Dorothy Harbutt widow offered Thomas a drink, but he declined, saying that he was going back into the parlour where the old Warden had promised to treat him. However, he never came back, having fallen into the well in the back yard and drowned.</p> <p>The article No. 24 reveals the continuing existence of the Red Lion in 1747 and the Coroner's Report refers to the Red Lion being the dwelling house of Anne Scott, widow (presumably a relation of John Scott, formerly mentioned). The Red Lion is later referred to in the Will of Ann Sawyer – see 1785 - who was then an owner of <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> land and therefore I believe the reason that this Inn is the <i>Stone Tenement</i> for which the owners of <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> paid the Corporation Rental and presumably owned the freehold of the land.</p> <p>Any Stone Tenements in Sutton Coldfield were likely to have been in existence prior to 1630 because, until then, buildings had been constructed with local sandstone and timber framed. Subsequent new buildings were of brick construction, as can be seen today. There are several Stone Tenements recorded in the Corporation Rentals and it has been suggested that many of these may have been built at the instigation of Bishop Vesey in the 1500s, which also means they are some of Sutton's oldest buildings.</p>	SCLHRG.  C. REPORT, 78/224,78/2 26,78/227
1748	<p><b>Transcription from Aris' Gazette of Monday 21 November 1748:</b></p> <p>WHEREAS there is an antient Market at the Town of Sutton Coldfield in the County of Warwick, for buying and selling of Corn, Grain, Cattle, Wares and Merchandizes, as the Laws of this Kingdom direct, upon Monday in every Week, and the same hath for several Years last past been disused: These are therefore to give Notice, That many Malsters, Dealers in Meal, Bakers and Millers, have consulted the Farmers in that Neighbourhood, and Places adjacent, who think it would be for their mutual Interest to keep the said Market on Foot, and are all determined to meet there to buy and sell all Manner of Corn and Grain in the said Market, on Monday the 28<sup>th</sup> Day of this Instant November, between the hours of Eleven and twelve of the Clock in the forenoon, and to continue meeting there every Market Day; and doubt not but (as the said Town is conveniently situated as well for Buyers as Sellers) that divers other Persons, as well in these as in many other Branches of Trade and Business, who have not been consulted on this Occasion, will, upon this Notice, attend the said Market, where the Grain may be sold by Sample, without being pitch'd in open Market, Toll Free. NOTE: Horned Cattle will be brought to the said Market, as soon as the contagious Distemper now raging amongst them ceases.</p> <p>The Market referred to in this newscutting is thought to have been held at the top of Mill Street, very close to the <i>Cross o'th'hand</i> land, and its resumption on every Market Day would be welcomed by the proprietors of the Red Lion.</p>	BNA

1749	<p>Transcription from Aris's Birmingham Gazette, dated 24 April 1749</p> <p>A Portmanteau Trunk, with a Brown Hair Cover on it, and no Direction. Any person that has found it, and will give Notice (so that it may be had again) to Joseph Salt, at the Saracen's Head in Bull Street, Birmingham; or to Mr John Scott, at the Red Lion, in Sutton, shall be satisfied for taking it up.</p> <p>John Scott in this newscutting appears to be the same (or a relative) tenant innholder of the Red Lion recorded in 1723.</p>	BNA
1751	<p>Court Roll for 1751</p>  <p>The last paragraph records that the Court Leet be adjourned till Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> October to be held at the House of Anne Scott Widow ... known by the name of the Red Lyon.</p>	BA (Ref BCU/2)
1752	<p>Indenture and conveyance between Anne Tyrer, the widow of John Tyrer, and John Sawyer for the estate of John Tyrer makes reference to land as follows:</p> <p><b>AND ALSO ALL THOSE Two Messuages Tenements or Dwelling-houses and Land thereto belonging and all that Stable situate and being in Sutton-Coldfield in the said County of Warwick and adjoining together with all outhouses Buildings Gardens orchards Barnsides and all appurtenances thereto belonging and also all that Croft or parcell of Land thereto belonging and adjoining containing about one acre (Be it more or less) all which said last mentioned premises were formerly in the possession of Thomas Cooper and Anne Scott Widow and one of which said last mentioned Messuages or Tenements is commonly known</b></p>	BA (Ref: MS2863)



	 <p>No Corporation Rentals have been found for the years between 1742 and 1757, so there is no record of anyone paying a rental for <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> and the <i>Stone Tenement</i> between those years. However, in 1757 Mr Sawyer is paying four pence for <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> and one shilling for the <i>Stone Tenement</i> (the Red Lion).</p> <p>It is my opinion that Mr Sawyer owned the freehold interest of the land on which the <i>Stone Tenement</i> was built and that the occupiers of that tenement would have held a leasehold interest in it, although no deeds to this effect have been discovered. At this time, the current tenant would appear to have been William Carver, the first husband of Mary Carver – see 1752.</p>	See also SCLHRG, CR1757										
1760	<b>Burial on 14<sup>th</sup> September 1760 of William Carver, first husband of Mary Carver, at Holy Trinity, Sutton Coldfield</b>	BNA and A, (Alison's Family Tree)										
1760	<p><b>Transcription from Newscutting dated Sutton Coldfield, 13<sup>th</sup> November 1760 from Aris's Birmingham Gazette</b></p> <p>At a Meeting of the several Blacksmiths, whose Names are here under set, living in or near Sutton Coldfield aforesaid, on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> Day of this Instant November, it was unanimously agreed to take this Method of acquainting their Brethren, That Iron, Coals, and Journeymen's Wages, being of late greatly enhanc'd they think it proper that a reasonable Advance of the prices of their Work in general, should be made; and therefore to the End that the same may be duly considered, and put under a proper Regulation before the same is put into Execution, so that their Customers may be served all alike, and no further Exactions put on them than what are reasonable, whereby to get a competent Livelihood by their said Business, they intend another Meeting at the Red-Lion in Sutton-Coldfield on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> Day of December next, that are within due Distance, will then and there give their Attendance, and enter into proper Articles to be prepared accordingly.</p> <table> <tr> <td>Joseph Stichly</td> <td>Joseph Harris</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Richard Whitehouse</td> <td>Thomas Farnell</td> </tr> <tr> <td>William Johnson</td> <td>Solomon Snape</td> </tr> <tr> <td>James Jackson</td> <td>Thomas Bampton</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thomas Ridding</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>The local Blacksmiths, as well as the Warden &amp; Society, used the Red Lion for their regular meetings. There had to be a large room at the Red Lyon to accommodate a large gathering of people, e.g. for inquests, auctions, entertainment, etc.</p>	Joseph Stichly	Joseph Harris	Richard Whitehouse	Thomas Farnell	William Johnson	Solomon Snape	James Jackson	Thomas Bampton	Thomas Ridding		BNA
Joseph Stichly	Joseph Harris											
Richard Whitehouse	Thomas Farnell											
William Johnson	Solomon Snape											
James Jackson	Thomas Bampton											
Thomas Ridding												
1762	<p><b>Transcription from Aris's Birmingham Gazette, 5<sup>th</sup> July 1762</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TO BE SOLD</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">On Monday, the 19<sup>th</sup> Day of July, at the House of Mary Carver, in Sutton Coldfield, in the County of Warwick, Widow, known by the Sign of the Red-Lion, between the Hours of Two and Six in the Afternoon ...</p> <p>Following her husband death, Mary Carver, the widow of William Carver, appears to be living at the Red Lion as an occupier.</p>	BNA										

<p>1762</p>	<p><b>Extract from William Hiorn's Plan</b></p> <p>This extract from William Hiorn's Plan shows Mary Carver had Pew No. 38 on the South Side of the Middle Isle 'for the Red Lyon'.</p> <p>John Sawyer had Pew No. 34 on the South Side of the South Isle and part of No. 13 on the North Side of the North Isle</p> <p>This plan was drawn up in 1762 causing a certain degree of animosity between the Warden &amp; Society and some of the pew holders, who disagreed with the pew allocation following refurbishment of the church. A phrase reverberates to this day from the Minutes of one of the Warden &amp; Society meetings referring to 'several greedy people of low rank, intending to take to themselves some of the best seats in this Parish Church'.</p> <p>N.B. Ownership of a Pew in Holy Trinity Parish Church went with a house.</p> 	<p>WHP HTSC</p>
<p>1763</p>	<p><b>Marriage on 8<sup>th</sup> February 1763 of Joseph Carver and Mary Carver (née Scott and also widow of William Carver).</b></p>	<p>A Alison Family Tree</p>
<p>1765</p>	<p><b>John Snape's Survey Map drawn for Andrew Hacket in 1765, reproduced by Norman Evans in 1974.</b></p>	<p>MAP A</p>




This map suggests the Red Lion Inn's position in the High Street, Sutton Coldfield

1769


Transcript from Aris's Birmingham Gazette dated 27<sup>th</sup> March 1769

BNA

To be Let and entered upon immediately, at Sutton-Coldfield in the County of Warwick, a new built House, neatly fitted up with a garden and Croft adjoining, containing by Statute Measure 1 Acre, 1 Rood, and 10 Perches of very rich Pasture Lane, together with a Brewhouse, and Stable for three Horses, and all other Conveniences, fit for a genteel Family, and is remarkably pleasantly situated. For further Particulars enquire of Mr. Carver, at the Red-Lyon in Sutton-Coldfield aforesaid.

	<p>This advertisement shows that Joseph Carver now seems to be conducting business from the Red Lion. It is uncertain where this particular ‘new built House’ was situated in 1769. Large Georgian houses were then being built or modernised with Queen Anne façades all along the main street of Sutton.</p>	
<p>1772</p>	<p><b>On 27<sup>th</sup> January 1772, John Sawyer was buried at Holy Trinity Church, a ‘gentleman’. His Will dated 12 August 1771, made 3 years before he died, was proved on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1774. It stated:</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><b>I GIVE AND DEVISE ALL THAT my new erected messuage or tenement and the Barbers Shop Stable Buildings Garden and Croft close or piece of land and all appurtenances thereto belonging situate standing lying and being in Sutton Coldfield aforesaid in the said Co of Warwick now in the occupation of me the said John Sawyer, Mrs Dolphin and Joseph Carver, unto my Wife, Mrs Ann Sawyer...</b></p> <p>The property he described in his Will does not mention <i>Cross o’th’ Hand</i>, the <i>Stone Tenement</i> or the Red Lion by name.</p> <p>It is not known precisely where his ‘new erected messuage’ was built but subsequent reference to the Sawyers’ house confirms that it was in close vicinity to the Red Lion. It cannot be Ivy House, now No. 20 High Street, as that is thought to be erected around 1675/1700. I would suggest that it could be No. 24 High Street, under part of which a railway tunnel was built c1880. The Regency/Georgian façade in this photo taken from Sutton Coldfield Library has only one window on the second floor, which was later altered to two windows (See 26<sup>th</sup> November 1976). No. 22 beside it appears to be a ‘fill in’ property. The narrow entry way just to the north of No 24 gave access to the rear of the properties. In this photo, a wall has been built, presumably when the railway was built, around 1889. At some stage, No. 22 was later amalgamated with No. 24 - See Building Planning Application No. 4040 in 1925</p> <p>Ivy Cottage (No. 20) is just to the right hand side of this picture, with a railing.</p> 	<p>A</p> <p>SL Ref SC87</p> <p>BPI</p>
<p>1775</p>	<p><b>Lease dated 19<sup>th</sup> June 1775 for 14 years relating to a close called <i>Cross in the hand</i></b></p>	<p>EPO (No 163)</p>



	<p>Wheat Sheaf, in New-street, Birmingham, or at Pearson and Rollason's Printers in the High-street. He likewise sets out on Tuesday Morning through Stone, Trentham, Newcastle, Etruria, Hanley, Shelton, Stoke, Lane Delph and Lane End.</p> <p>This advertisement shows that the Red Lion now offered a parcel collection service.</p>	
1781	<p>Corporation Rental showing Mrs Sawyer paying chief rent for <i>Cross oth Hand</i> and the <i>Stone Tenement</i></p>	CR
1785	<p>Death of Ann Sawyer Extract from her Will dated 18<sup>th</sup> April 1781, proved on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1785.</p> <p>And as to all my said messuages lands tenements and hereditaments with the appurtenances in the parish of Sutton Coldfield aforesaid in the said County of Warwick ... I give and devise the same and all my Estate and interest therein unto the said Mrs Elizabeth Townsend her heirs and assigns for ever and ... I declare that I have meant and intended to comprehend and include and do mean and intend to comprehend and include a certain road way or passage whereof I am seised and to which I am entitled from and to the street in the Town of Sutton Coldfield aforesaid unto and from the back part of the Red Lyon Inn and the house I now dwell in [No. 24?] situate in Sutton Coldfield aforesaid and unto and from the buildings land and premises lying behind the said two houses and which said road way or passage and the land and ground thereof and all other my hereditaments and premises in Sutton Coldfield and the parish of Sutton Coldfield aforesaid not comprehended and comprised in the said herein before recited Indentures of Lease and Release... I will direct and declare shall also pass and be deemed to pass to the said Elizabeth Townsend her heirs and assigns forever by force and virtue of this my Will and I do will and direct that the said Elizabeth Townsend her heirs and assigns out of the said messuage or tenement in Sutton Coldfield wherein I now dwell with the buildings garden and premises thereunto belonging and the rents and profits thereof shall yearly and every year for ever after my decease pay apply and dispose of the sum of two pounds and two shillings by two equal portions on Christmas Eve and Easter Eve yearly unto such poor widows or housekeepers residing in or belonging to the Parish of Sutton Coldfield aforesaid for the time being as shall be judged real and deserving objects of Charity...</p> <p>Ann Sawyer, being the widow of John Sawyer, appointed Elizabeth Townsend as her Executor and bequeathed her Sutton properties to her. It will become clear that Ann was still the owner of the freehold of the <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> land and the <i>Stone Tenement</i> (the Red Lion). Her Will shows that the house she lived in and the Red Lion Inn fronted the main street and that there were buildings, land and premises lying behind these two houses.</p> <p>The entrance to the 'road way or passage' to the back of the Red Lion and the Sawyers' property mentioned in Ann Sawyer's Will is thought to be that seen in this photo to the left of No. 24 High Street. It was known as 'Albert Street' in 1800 ('Old Bank Place' in 2025)</p> 	A

Author's  
photograph  
2025

The map below circa 1800 shows 'Albert Street'.

MAP B



Among many of her pecuniary bequests, Ann left 'unto Mrs Mary Carver, Wife of Joseph Carver my Tenant of the Red Lion Inn in Sutton Coldfield ...the sum of twenty pounds' and she directed her Executor to set up a Charity for poor widows or housekeepers in the Parish.

Her Will also revealed that she had had a previous marriage to John Tyrer. She was his Executrix, as evidenced by the following newspaper extract which appeared after her death relating to an old bankruptcy case in 1751.

**Aris's Gazette dated 9<sup>th</sup> February 1789.**

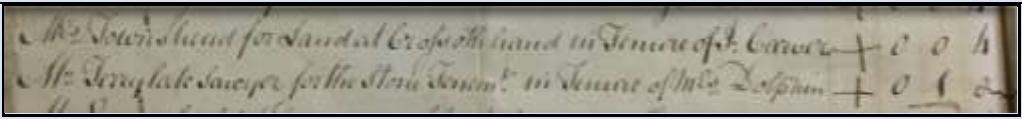
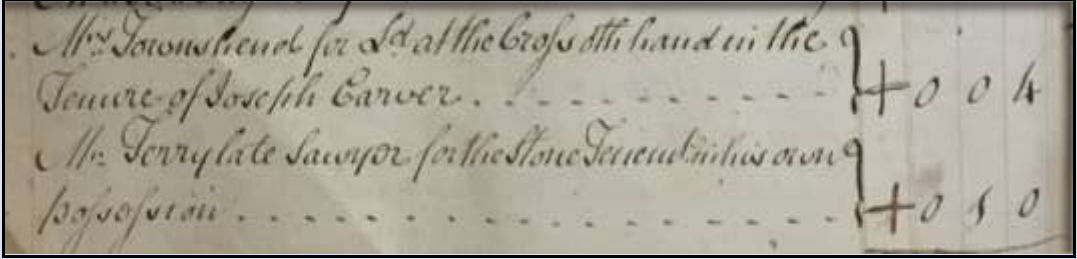
BNA

Anne Sawyer, of Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire, as Executrix of John Tyrer

1787

Mrs Townsend paying rent for land at the *Cross o'th' hand* in the Tenure of Joseph Carver  
Mr Terry late Sawyer for the *Stone Tenement* in Tenure of Mrs Dolphin

CR

	 <p>In John Sawyer's Will dated 1771, he referred to Mrs Dolphin as being an occupant/tenant of his property which he intended to leave to his wife, Ann Sawyer. Mrs Sawyer's Will then bequeathed everything to Mrs Townsend, amongst which would have been the <i>Stone Tenement</i>, i.e. the old property known as the Red Lion, which another Mr Terry appears to have acquired by 1787 and which, at this time, was occupied by Mrs Dolphin.</p> <p>This Mr Terry may have been the surgeon and apothecary who was licenced to operate the Driffold House Lunatic Association Asylum in 1792.</p>	KO
1788	<p><b>Mrs Townsend paying rent for Land at the <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> in the Tenure of Joseph Carver</b>  <b>Mr Terry late Sawyer for the <i>Stone Tenement</i> in his own possession</b></p>  <p>Here Mr Terry no longer has a tenant of the <i>Stone Tenement</i>. He is the owner and also occupying it at present. It may be that Mrs Dolphin had moved away.</p> <p>See Mr Terry's Will dated 7<sup>th</sup> May 1816, proved on 20.5.1817.</p>	CR
1788	<p><b>Sun Fire Insurance Policy dated 17<sup>th</sup> October 1788</b></p> <p>This relates to Thomas Terry's house, said to be 'near the Cross', presumably the <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i>. This is the only time there is a reference to 'the Cross' and it makes one wonder if other Sutton documents of this time may have reference to it?</p>	NA
1790	<p><b>Mrs Townsend (her name was crossed out and replaced by Mr Terry) paying rent for Land at the <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> in the Tenure of Jos.Carver</b>  <b>Mr Terry late Sawyer, for the <i>Stone Tenement</i> in his own possession.</b></p>	CR
1791	<p><b>Newspaper Article – Aris's Birmingham Gazette 1<sup>st</sup> January 1791</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SUTTON-COLDFIELD DANCING ASSEMBLY</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Will be on Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> of January, 1791. A Supper will be provided.</b>  <b>Red-Lion, Sutton, Jan.1, 1791</b></p> <p>The old Red Lion is now hosting a Dancing Assembly, proving that it must have had a large room to be able to allow for dancing. One only has to look at the size of the conversion of the building around 1816 to see that it was large enough to accommodate a dance hall.</p>	BNA

1795

The Warwickshire, England, Occupational and Quarter Session Records, 1662-1866 shows:

A

June 4<sup>th</sup> 1795  
May 21<sup>st</sup> 1795

Townsend, Elizabeth  
Dolphin, Margaret

House  
House

Warwicksh: District John Killers Distributer.

Certificates for using Hair Powder issued for the Year 1795

Parish of *Sutton Coldfield* ~~Continued~~

N <sup>o</sup> of Certificate	Date	Persons Names	Description	N <sup>o</sup> of Certificate	Date	Persons Names	Description
✓ 1	May 21	Arden M <sup>rs</sup>	House	5	May 18	Scott Mary	House
2	21	Andrew	Tenant	12	22	Scottam James	See to the side
6	18	Bevinuel M <sup>rs</sup>	House	25	June 3	Smith Richard	
7	18	Bevinuel M <sup>rs</sup>	Wife	110	22	Shaw H. Amelia	
10	22	Mich. Tenn	Wife	18	June 25	Terry Betty	Dan
31	June 3	Rich. Tenn. / Brother to Dan	Dan	73	June 4	Townshend Eliz <sup>th</sup>	House
30	3	Brown Tho <sup>s</sup>	Tenant	2	May 11	Williamson Phoe	Tenant
34	4	Butler Andrew	House	3	15	Webb Wm	House
17	May 22	Conway Edm <sup>d</sup>	Tenant: 23	11	15	Webb Ann	Wife
10	21	Dolphin Marg <sup>t</sup>	House	15	22	Gates Rich <sup>d</sup>	House
33	June 3	Duncumb Eliz <sup>th</sup>	Tenant	16	22	Gates Mary	House

Mrs Elizabeth Townsend and Margaret Dolphin were paying tax for Hair Powder, as 'gentry' in Sutton Coldfield at that time. Many other important personages are also mentioned on this list

At this time, William Pitt the Younger, needing funds to pay for the war with Napoleon of France, decided to impose a tax on the hair powder that was used to whiten the wigs or hairpieces worn by men and women.

Thus, under the Duty on Hair Powder Act 1795, one was required to obtain a yearly certificate from the local J.P., costing one guinea, and a copy of the list of those who had paid was affixed to the door of the local parish church. This seems a clever ploy to ensure that no-one evaded the tax, as presumably you would not turn up at church on Sunday wearing a wig or hairpiece if your name wasn't on the list!

1795

Mr Terry late Sawyer and Townshend for Land at *Cross o' th' Hand* in the Tenure of J. Carver  
Mr. Terry for late Sawyer's *Stone Tenement*

CR

1796

Newspaper Article 6<sup>th</sup> June 1796, Aris's Birmingham Gazette

BNA

#### FREEHOLD ESTATE AT SUTTON COLDFIELD

To be SOLD by AUCTION, by Thomas Warren, at the Dwelling House of Joseph Carver, being the Red Lion Inn, situate in Sutton Coldfield ... all that neat and elegant Freehold Messuage or Tenement, situate in Sutton Coldfield aforesaid, now in the Occupation of Mrs Townsend, consisting of a good Kitchen and Cellars on the Ground Floor; a Hall, two Parlours, and a large China Closet, and four Sleeping Rooms over the same, with four good Garrets; also a very good private Yard wherein is a Brewhouse, with a Lead Pump, which conveys Water into the Brewhouse, with a Coal-house and all

	<p>other conveniences; a very good walled Garden, planted with choice Fruit Trees, and a very good Kitchen Garden adjoining. Also a Piece of very rich Land lying at the Bottom of the Kitchen Garden, and adjoining thereto, in the Occupation of the said Joseph Carver containing one Acre of Land or thereabouts.</p> <p>The Premises are subject to the Payment of 40s. yearly, to the Poor of Sutton Coldfield.</p> <p>N.B. There is a very valuable and extensive Right of Common belonging to the said Premises over the Park, and all other commonable Lands situate in the Parish of Sutton Coldfield aforesaid, which on the intended Inclosure may be very considerable.</p> <p>For further Particulars enquire of Charles Oakes, Esq. Tamworth.</p> <p>The Premises may be viewed by applying to the said Joseph Carver at the Red Lion above-mentioned.</p> <p>The property offered to be sold by auction at Joseph Carver's house, must be that previously inhabited by John and Ann Sawyer (and formerly was 'my new erected messuage' referred to by Mr Sawyer in his Will written in 1771 and left to his wife, who then left it to Elizabeth Townsend who lived in it in 1796). I continue to believe this property to be No. 24 High Street.</p>	
1796	<p><b>Mr Terry late Sawyer and Townsend for land at <i>Cross o'th' hand</i> in his own possession.</b>  <b>Mr Terry for late Sawyer's <i>Stone Tenement</i></b></p> <p>The fact that <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> was 'in his own possession' presumably means Mr Terry owned the freehold of the land and also made use of it.</p>	CR
1797	<p><b>Newspaper Cutting dated 4<sup>th</sup> December from Aris's Birmingham Gazette</b></p> <p><b>DIED. A few days ago, at Sutton Coldfield, Mr. Carver, of the Red Lion Inn; a very honest and respectable character. Mr. C. being a Member of the Sutton Coldfield Association, was buried with military honors.</b></p> <p>It is not known why he was buried with military honours.  In addition to the above, Ancestry Parish records say:</p> <p><b>Buried 24<sup>th</sup> November 1797 Joseph Carver, Master of the Red Lyon Inn 59.</b></p>	BNA          A
1800	<p><b>Newscutting dated 6<sup>th</sup> January 1800 from Aris's Birmingham Gazette.</b></p> <p><b>TO be SOLD by AUCTION, by THOMAS WARREN, at the House of Mrs. Mary Carver, at the Sign of the Red Lion, in Sutton Coldfield, in the County of Warwick, on Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> Day of January instant, between the Hours of Three and Five ....</b></p> <p>This shows that Joseph Carver's widow, Mrs Mary Carver, is still living at the Red Lion and Auctions continued to take place there.</p>	BNA
1801	<p><b>Mr Terry late Sawyer and Townsend for Land at <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> in his own possession. (see 1796)</b>  <b>D<sup>o</sup> for late Sawyer's <i>Stone Tenement</i></b></p>	CR Also SCLHRG
1802	<p><b>Birth of Sarah Holbeche (a well known Sutton diarist).</b></p>	SCLHRG/SHD
1803	<p><b>Mr Terry late Sawyer and Townsend for Land at <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> in his own possession</b>  <b>D<sup>o</sup> for late Sawyer's <i>Stone Tenement</i></b></p>	CR



	<p>neat Oak Bureau, Chests of Drawers, good Kitchen Furniture, &amp;c. a neat Gig with Harness, a Taxed Cart with Harness, and other Effects. The Sale to begin at Ten o’Clock in the Morning. Catalogues may be had at the Three Tuns, in Sutton; George Inn, Walsall; and other principal Inns in the Neighbourhood; or of the Auctioneers, Sutton or Birmingham.</p> <p>When Mary Carver died and her effects were sold, it is apparent that she must have been living at the Red Lion, still running it as a guest house/inn after Joseph’s death. This is an auction of her household furniture, which indicates that the Red Lion Inn itself was to be sold separately. See next entry.</p>	
1805	<p>Newscutting dated 15<sup>th</sup> April 1805 from Aris’s Birmingham Gazette</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>RED LION INN, SUTTON COLDFIELD</b></p> <p>THOMAS STEVENSON, having purchased the above Inn and Premises, respectfully solicits the Patronage and Support of his Friends and the Public in general, and begs to assure them, no Exertion on his Part shall be wanting to give Satisfaction, and merit a Continuance of their Favours. Gentlemen Travellers will meet with every Attention and Accommodation at the above Inn.</p> <p>Thomas Stevenson became the owner of the Red Lion Inn and premises and asks people to support him. He would appear to be continuing to run it as a guest house.</p>	BNS
1807	<p>Newscutting dated 20 April 1807 from Aris’s Birmingham Gazette</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>RED LION INN, SUTTON COLDFIELD</b></p> <p>TO be LET, that capital old established Inn, the Red Lion, situate in the Centre of the Royal Town of Sutton Coldfield, in the County of Warwick, on the great North Road about Midway between the City of Lichfield and the Town of Birmingham. The Mail, Liverpool, Manchester, Nottingham, Sheffield, Derby, and other Coaches, pass through Sutton daily and there are few Towns of greater Thoroughfare in the Kingdom. A Person qualified for such a Situation, with a moderate Capital, may ensure himself Success. Immediate Possession may be had, and for other Particulars apply to Mr. Sadler, Solicitor, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.</p> <p>Possibly, Thomas Stevenson’s business didn’t succeed. The Red Lion Inn is now to be let. There is mention of stage coaches passing through Sutton.</p>	BNA
1807	<p>Newscutting dated 21<sup>st</sup> December 1807</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TOLLS TO LET</b></p> <p>NOTICE is hereby given, that by Virtue of an Act passed in the 47<sup>th</sup> Year of his present Majesty’s Reign, the Tolls arising at the several Gates on the Turnpike Road from Birmingham, in the County of Warwick, to join the Lichfield Turnpike Road, in the Parish of Shenstone, in the County of Stafford, will be LET by AUCTION to the best Bidder, for one Year, at the House of Daniel Aston, called the Red Lion, in Sutton Coldfield, in the said County of Warwick, on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> Day of January next, between the Hours of Eleven and One in the forenoon. Whoever happens to be the best Bidder, must at the same Time pay one Month’s Rent in advance, and give</p>	BNA

	<p>Security, with sufficient Sureties, to the Satisfaction of the Trustees, for Payment of the Remainder of the Rent agreed for, at such Times and in such Proportions as they shall direct. The Tolls received at the said Gates may be known by Application to</p> <p style="text-align: right;">BEDFORD and GEM. Clerks to the Trustees. Birmingham, December 5, 1807</p> <p>Daniel Aston now appears to be tenant of the Red Lion and an Auction is to take place there on 8<sup>th</sup> January 1808 of the Tolls arising at the several gates on the Turnpike Road from Birmingham which joined the Lichfield Turnpike Road at the end of the High Street beyond the boys' Grammar School.</p>	
1808 to 1818	<p>Mr Terry paying corporation rental for late Sawyer and Townsend Land at <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> in his own possession Mr Terry for late Sawyer's <i>Stone Tenement</i></p> <p>Mr Terry still paying corporation rent as Freeholder of Sawyer's <i>Stone Tenement</i> and continues to do so until 1818.</p>	CR
1809	<p>Newscutting dated 29<sup>th</sup> May from Aris's Birmingham Gazette</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LICHFIELD TURNPIKE ROAD</p> <p>WANTED by the Trustees of the Turnpike Road from Birmingham to Shenstone, a Person as a working Surveyor of the said Road. Persons desirous of the Situation are desired to bring Testimonials of Character, &amp;c. to the next Meeting of the Trustees, which will be held at the Red Lion, in Sutton Coldfield, on Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> Day of June next, at Twelve o'Clock at Noon.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">BEDFORD and GEM, Clerks to the said Trustees.</p> <p>The Trustees of the Turnpike Road are advertising for a working Surveyor of the Turnpike Road. Meeting to be at the Red Lion 9<sup>th</sup> June 1809.</p>	BNA
1809	Daniel Aston buried on 30 <sup>th</sup> October 1809	A
1809	<p>Newscutting dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 1809 from Aris's Birmingham Gazette</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUTTON COLDFIELD</p> <p>To be SOLD by AUCTION on the Premises, by BENJAMIN JACOB and SON, on Monday and Tuesday, the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of December instant, all the neat and genuine Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, and other Effects, late belonging to Mr. Daniel Aston, deceased, at the Red Lion Inn, in Sutton Coldfield in the County of Warwick, consisting of Four-post, Tent, and other bedsteads, with printed Cotton and Dimity Hangings; good Feather Beds, Blankets, Quilts and Counterpanes; Pier and Dressing Glasses, Floor and Bedside Carpets, very good Mahogany and Oak Dining, Dressing, and Claw Tables; capital Eight-day Clock, in a neat Oak case; good kitchen Requisites; excellent well seasoned Casks, Barrels, Mash Tubs, &amp;c. a Hogshead Copper Furnace; a chestnut Mare, Gig and Harness, two large store Figs, and various other Effects.</p>	BNA

	<p><b>The Sale to begin each Day precisely at Half past Ten. Catalogues will be distributed in due Time, or may be had of the Auctioneers, in Sutton or Birmingham.</b></p> <p>Daniel Aston's effects are now all up for sale and it seems he was destined to be the last tenant ever to run the Red Lion Inn</p>	
1811	<p><b>Newscutting dated 25<sup>th</sup> March 1811 from Aris's Birmingham Gazette</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AN OLD ESTABLISHED INN.</b></p> <p><b>TO be LET, the RED LION, in Sutton Coldfield, situate on the great North Road, about Midway between Birmingham and Lichfield. The Situation is such as will ensure Success to an industrious obliging young Couple, adapted for the Business.</b></p> <p><b>Apply to Mr. Wilson, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire</b></p> <p>The Red Lion to be let. Mr. Wilson was probably the Agent for the then Owner, Mr Terry.</p>	BNA
1812	<p><b>Newscutting dated 29 June 1812 from Aris's Birmingham Gazette</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CASTLE BROMWICH AND SALTLEY TURNPIKE ROAD</b></p> <p><b>NOTICE is hereby given, that the next Meeting of the Trustees of the said Turnpike Roads will be holden (by adjournment) on Friday next, the third Day of July, at Eleven o'Clock in the forenoon, at the Red Lion Inn, situate in the Town of Sutton Coldfield, in the County of Warwick.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>EDW. SADLER,</b> Clerk to the said Trustees. Sutton Coldfield, June 29, 1812</p> <p>Meetings of the Turnpike Road Trustees were continuing to meet at the Red Lion Inn but one wonders if there was anyone running it.</p>	BNA
1813	<p><b>Newscutting dated 8<sup>th</sup> March 1813 from Aris's Birmingham Gazette</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE</b></p> <p><b>The Lease of the House and Land situate at Doe Bank, advertised to be sold by Tender, at the Red Lion Inn, in Sutton Coldfield, on Wednesday the 10<sup>th</sup> Day of March inst. is postponed at the present.</b></p> <p>If this advert refers to a Lease of the Red Lion Inn itself, this would appear to be the last recorded mention of its being for sale. It may be that it had been decided to convert it into residential use at this stage.</p>	BNA
1813	<p><b>In 1813, on page 7 of her diary, Sarah Holbeche stated that</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Red Lion became extinct, Carver who kept it going to Knowle, and Mrs Vaughton and her son occupying it, he having a billiard room over the way at Browne's the glaziers.</b></p> <p>As both Joseph and Mary Carver had died before 1803 and other tenants had continued to run the Red Lion Linn, it is not known which 'Carver' Sarah Holbeche meant. Bearing in mind that she wrote up most of her diary in 1862 (years after the events recorded), she may have been confused. There were known to be other 'Carvers' living in Sutton Coldfield at that time.</p>	P7 of SHD

Suit roll for Great Sutton

Great Sutton	30 <sup>th</sup> April 1813	8 <sup>th</sup> April 1813	22 <sup>nd</sup> April 1814	21 <sup>st</sup> April 1814	7 <sup>th</sup> April 1815	20 <sup>th</sup> April 1815	26 <sup>th</sup> April 1816	10 <sup>th</sup> October 1816
Robert Pooley Nicholas								
Christopher Lucas	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep
James Hughes Jersey bomber	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep
Elizabeth Weston	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	D	Ep	void
Herbert Bhatfield	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep
Roger Whitacre	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep
<del>James Hughes Red Lion</del>	Ep	Ep	D	void	void	void		
<del>Mr Edw. Sadler</del>							Ep	Ep
John Felton	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep
<del>John Horner</del>								
<del>Samuel Nicholls Junr</del>	Ep	Ep	Ep	D	Ep	Ep	void	void
James Ruston	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep
<del>Tom Maffall</del>								
<del>Richard Maffall</del>	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep
Robert Harvey	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep
<del>Joseph Sadler</del>								
<del>Benjamin Williams Sadler</del>	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep
<del>Thomas Bientralb Junr</del>	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep
<del>Benjamin Williams</del>	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep
<del>Richard Sadler</del>	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep
Charles Brookes	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep
Isaac Barver	Ep	Ep	Ep	D	Ep	Ep	D	Ep
Charles Humbert	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep
Joseph Holland	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep
Joseph Hargreave	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep	Ep

This shows James Hughes (another tenant) paying a rent in respect of the Red Lion in 1813 which was followed by a void period in 1814 and 1815 (perhaps when the building was converted for residential use), and then Mr Edward Sadler was shown to be paying rent in respect of it in 1816.



SUTTON COLDFIELD. 1815.

1816

Newscutting of 22 January 1816, Aris's Birmingham Gazette

BNA

**SUTTON COLDFIELD**

**TO be LET or SOLD, an excellent Dwelling house, recently put into complete Repair, situated in the Centre of the Town, and consists of four Sitting rooms, seven Chambers, and four Attics, Water Closet, Cellars, &c. &c. There are convenient Outbuildings and Garden.**

**For further Particulars apply to Mr. Terry, Sutton Coldfield**

I assume this is the White House?

1816

**Evidence of conversion of the Red Lion Inn into a private house**

SHD, page 4

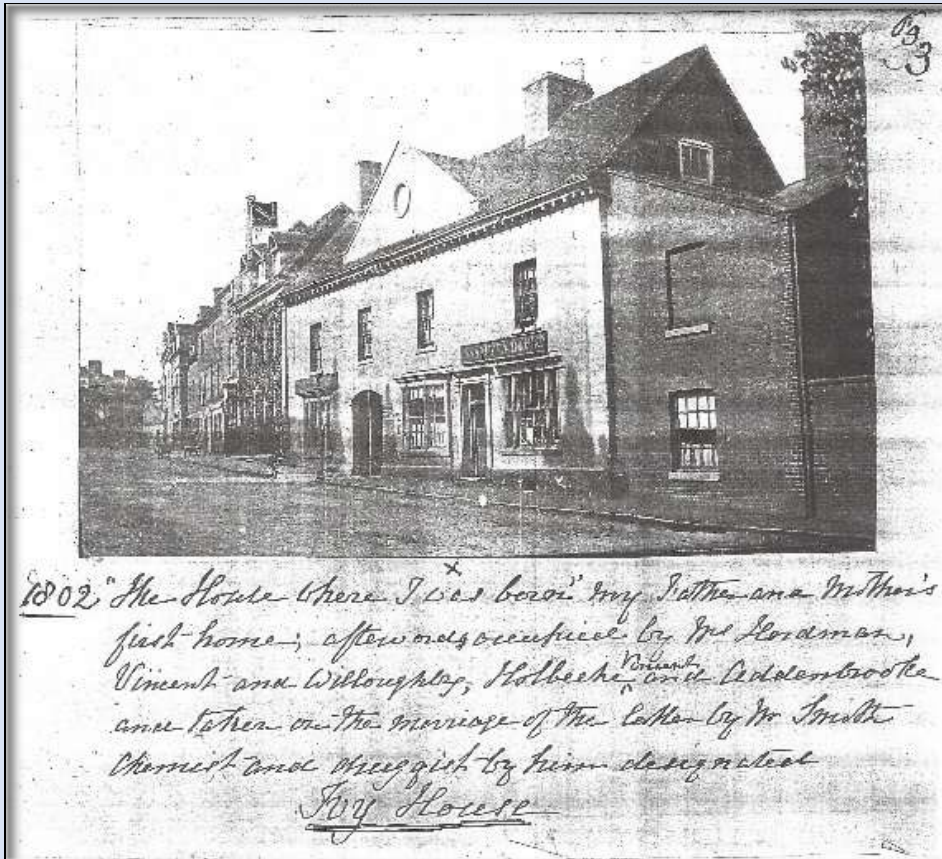
In her diary, written in 1862, by writing an 'x' below a building in the following photograph she identifies the Red Lion, saying

**the prominent feature was the Red Lion, converted into a private house for Mrs Vaughton and her son Robert ... since divided for shops, now, shoe shop, Post Office, and Stationers in 1862**

Nobody knows what the Red Lion Inn (the *Stone Tenement*) would have looked like, but it would necessarily have had an entrance way for stage coaches or horses. This replacement building appears to have made use of that entrance way. It would appear to have had a large room for dancing but was large enough to hold auctions. The conversion to residential use took place around 1816.

I will now refer to the converted building as the 'White House'.

In the photograph, Sarah also indicated Ivy House, now 20 High Street, with a flag as the place in which she was born.



This photograph was taken by William Grundy, the famous Sutton Coldfield photographer, shortly before his death in 1859.

WMG

1816 Burial on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1816 of Thomas Terry, said to be 'In the Town'.

A

1816 Newscutting of 25 November 1816, Aris's Birmingham Gazette

BNA

**SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE**

**TO be LET, and entered upon at Lady Day next, a handsome HOUSE, situated in the Centre of the Town of Sutton, with Stable, Garden, &c. complete, now in the Occupation of Mr Sadler, Attorney. The Premises are in excellent Repair, and consist of three Parlours, six Chambers, four Attics, &c. and calculated for the Reception of a genteel Family. For Particulars apply to Mr. Terry, Surgeon, Sutton Coldfield.**

Mr Terry referred to here must be William Terry, Thomas' son, and presumably he is dealing with the letting of one of the houses on behalf of his sisters, Kitty and Nanny, who appear to be the Landlords of the property.

1817 Extracts from the Will of Mr Thomas Terry made 7<sup>th</sup> May 1816 and proved 20<sup>th</sup> May 1817

A

**I give devise and bequeath unto my son William Terry ALL THAT my messuage or tenement wherein I now inhabit and the croft adjoining thereto and belonging the same with the garden and all and every the stables buildings and premises to my said messuage or tenement belonging and therewith occupied as also the building lately used as a Butchers shop adjoining and belonging thereto situate and being in the Town of Sutton Coldfield aforesaid...**

And also all that my croft and parcel of land and hereditaments with the appurtenances adjoining the above mentioned croft lately purchased by me of Mr Lucius Chattock Jenkins and called or known by the name of the Red Lion Croft ...

And also all those my two closes pieces or parcels of land and hereditaments with the buildings and appurtenances belonging situate and lying in the parish of Sutton Coldfield aforesaid containing five acres be the same more or less and which I purchased of Mrs Elizabeth Townsend and now in my own occupation and also all and every my household goods and furniture and household stock of every sort whatsoever as also the stock of my apothecaries shop and all drugs preparations surgeons instruments and all other matters and things whatsoever in and about the said shop belonging or in appertaining to the profession of a surgeon and apothecary and all other the goods furniture and household stock which shall be in and about my said messuage or tenement at the time of my decease...

To Hold all and singular my said messuage buildings lands furniture stock effects and premises with the appurtenances unto the said William Terry his Executors Administrators and assigns to and for his and their own use and benefit...

And I hereby declare and direct that my daughters Kitty Terry and Nanny Terry shall and may continue to live with my said son William Terry and to remain in my said dwellinghouse building and premises rent free and to have enjoy possess and use everything therein for the span of twelve months after my decease anything hereinbefore or hereinafter contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding...


Also I give and devise unto my said daughters Kitty Terry and Nanny Terry all that my freehold messuage buildings yard gardens and hereditaments belonging lately known by the name or sign of 'the Red Lyon' and premises situated in the Town of Sutton Coldfield aforesaid which I lately purchased of Mr Lucius Chattock Jenkins and which are now in the occupation of Mr Edward Sadler and reserved out of this devise the aforementioned croft part of the said purchase and the right of Road and passage belonging to the said premises from the street of Sutton Coldfield aforesaid over that thro' the yard belonging to the house I now occupy which road and passage I hereby for ever extinguish and annul to hold my said freehold messuage buildings yard gardens hereditament and premises lately known by the name or sign of the Red Lion Inn and premises with their and every of their appurtenances except as aforesaid unto them my said daughters Kitty Terry and Nanny Terry their heirs and assigns for ever as Tenants in Common and not as joint Tenant ...

This Will suggests that Thomas had acquired or owns not only the White House but possibly Ivy House, Nos 22 and 24 High Street and a large tract of land and premises at the back of these properties. However, there is insufficient evidence to understand who lived where or who his tenants were.

It is assumed that from now on William Terry has moved in to one of the houses with his sisters, Kitty and Nanny, who, perhaps are waiting for the White House to become vacant before they move into it (see 1818)


N.B. The Will of Elizabeth Townsend dated 5.9.1808 makes no mention of *Cross oth Hand* or the Red Lion which suggests that she had probably already sold her interest in both to Lucius Chattock Jenkins before she made her Will.


A

1817	<p>Newscutting 5 May, 1817 Aris's Birmingham Gazette</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUTTON COLDFIELD</p> <p>TO be LET, and entered upon immediately, HOUSE, containing three Parlours, ten good Lodging Rooms, with Garden, Stable, and Out-office complete. The Premises are in excellent Repair, and situate in the Centre of the Town of Sutton. For Particulars apply to Mr. Terry, Surgeon, Sutton Coldfield.</p> <p>This must be the White House. Mr Terry, Surgeon, refers to William Terry, Thomas' son, also a Surgeon.</p>	BNA
1818	<p>Mr Terry (William Terry) late Sawyer and Townsend for Land at '<i>Cross o'th' Hand</i>' in his own possession D<sup>o</sup> for late Sawyer's <i>Stone Tenement</i></p>	CR
1821	<p>Newscutting 16<sup>th</sup> July 1821, Aris's Birmingham Gazette</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUTTON COLDFIELD</p> <p>TO be LET, and entered upon immediately, a House calculated for the Reception of a genteel Family, situated in the Centre of the Town. Apply to Mr Terry, Sutton.</p> <p>This is Mr. William Terry. Son of Thomas Terry</p>	BNA
1823	<p>Mr Terry for <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> Mr Terry for late Sawyer's <i>Stone Tenement</i></p>	CR
1824	<p>Excerpt from Corn Rent Map:</p> 	CRM

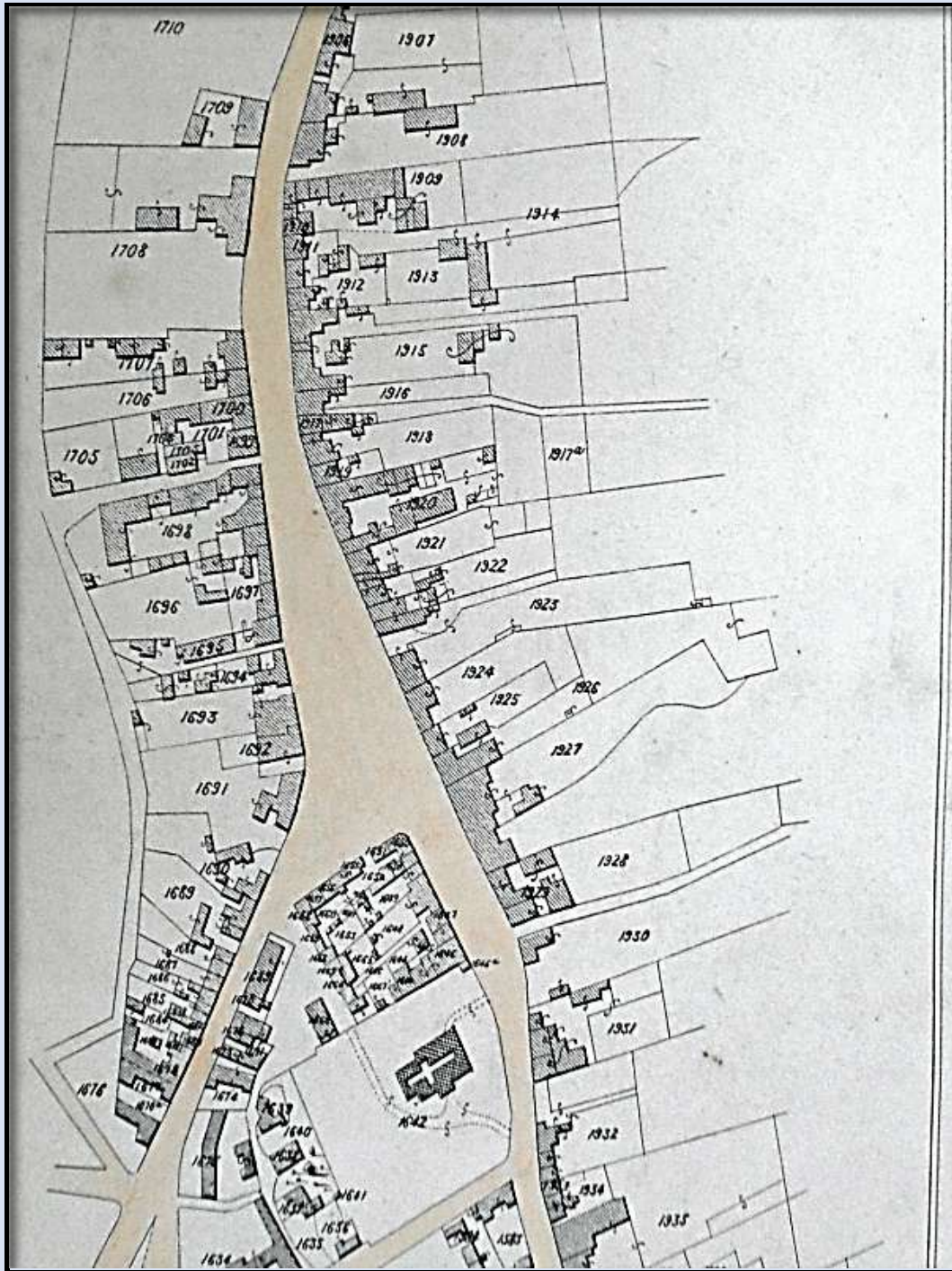
	<p>The following Corn Rent Schedule shows Mr William Terry (son of Mr Thomas Terry) to be the owner and occupier of Plots 850 (House and Croft) and 851 (House, offices and garden – presumably the White House).</p> <p>Mr Thomas Terry left the house and gardens on Plot 852 to his daughters Kitty and Nanny and they owned but did not occupy them.</p> <p>N.B. As a point of interest, Sarah Holbeche recalls an event of great importance to this area of Sutton in 1824 on page 11 of her diary in which she notes that the</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Top of town carried to bottom filling up hollows and making a new road</b></p> <p>making it far easier for the horse drawn stage coaches to navigate Mill Street, which was a very steep hill.</p>	SHD P11
1824	<p><b>Corn Rent Schedule</b></p> <p><u>Transcription of Plots 850, 851, 852 from the Schedule</u>  Plot 850 – house croft, owned and occupied by Mr William Terry (this is the site of the future Midland Drive)  Plot 851 – House offices and garden owned and occupied by William Terry  Plot 851.1 House, offices and yard owner, Richard Butler, occ R.P. Nicholson  Plot 851.2 House offices and garden owned and occ by Mrs E Hurdman  Plot 851.3 House etc, owned and occ by Christopher Lucas  Plot 851.4 Malthouse owned by Samuel Smith, occ by Harry Smith  Plot 851.5 Tenement and yard owned by Samuel Smith, occ by widow Deeley  Plot 851.6 Tenement and yard owned by Samuel Smith, occ by Thomas Glover  Plot 851.7 Tenement and yard, owned by Samuel Smith occ by widow Goodwin  Plot 851.8 Tenement and yard, owned by Samuel Smith occ by widow Harvey  Plot 851.9 Tenement and yard, owned by Samuel Smith occ by Elizabeth Mascall  Plot 851.9 Tenement and yard, owned by Samuel Smith occ by Samuel Nicholls  Plot 851.9 Tenement and yard, owned by Samuel Smith occ Henry Roper  Plot 851.9 Tenement and yard, owned by Samuel Smith occ James Ruston  Plot 851.9 Tenement and yard, owned by Samuel Smith occ Isaac Tooth  Plot 852 Tenement and yard, owned by Samuel Smith, occ Joseph Walker  Plot 852 Tenement and yard, owned by Samuel Smith, occ Benjamin Wilkins  Plot 852 House, offices and garden owned by Kitty and Nanny Terry, occ William Boston  Plot 852.1 Garden in town, owner John Smith, sen Whiteh, occ Charles Brocas  Plot 852.2 Garden in town, owner John Smith, sen Whiteh, occ James Hughes  Plot 852.3 Garden in town, owner John Smith, sen Whiteh, occ Christopher Lucas  Plot 852.4 Garden in town, owner John Smith, sen Whiteh, occ Harry Smith  Plot 852.5 Garden in town, owner John Smith, sen, Whiteh, occ Benjamin Wilkins  Plot 852.6 Tenement and garden, owner John Smith, sen, Whiteh,</p>	CRSB

	<p>occ Margaret Aulton  Plot 852.7 Tenement and garden, owner John Smith, sen Whiteh,  occ George Brown (tailor)  Plot 852.8 Tenement and garden, owner John Smith, sen Whiteh,  occ William Mann  Plot 852.9 Tenement and Garden, owner John Smith, sen Whiteh,  occ Thomas Whitworth  Plot 852.9 House, garden and stat, owner John Smith, sen Whiteh  occ Edward Sadler, jun  Plot 852.9 Garden and close, owner John Smith, sen, Whiteh  occ R.P. Nicholson</p>	
1827	<p>Mr Terry, late Sawyer and Townsend, paying rent for Land at <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> in his own possession  D<sup>o</sup> late Sawyers <i>Stone Tenement</i></p> <p>N.B. Corporation Rentals seem to have discontinued as far as this property is concerned around this time. From now on, it has been difficult to be clear about the ownership of the land known as <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i>, although the occupiers of some of the properties on it can still be ascertained.</p> <p>The reference to <i>Cross o'th' Hand</i> now ceases to appear in the records. One wonders if all the freeholds of the property on the land had now been sold off?</p>	CR
1830	<p><b>Terry [William] &amp; Horton, surgeons 1830.</b></p> <p>William Terry &amp; Richard Horton were Surgeons who had a private asylum at The Driffold (later George Bodington's)</p> <p>N.B. Mr Horton eventually married Nanny Terry and it is possible they lived in Kitty and Nanny's house. It is also believed that Terry &amp; Horton, Surgeons may have had a surgery there.</p>	SCD HSC
1832	<p><b>Newscutting 31 December 1832, Aris's Birmingham Gazette</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SUTTON COLDFIELD</b></p> <p>TO be LET, and may be entered upon immediately, all that genteel DWELLING HOUSE and Offices, with pleasure and kitchen garden at the back (partly walled round) pleasantly situated in the town of Sutton Coldfield in the county of Warwick, late the residence of Mrs. Hurdman, deceased.</p> <p>For rent and further particulars apply to Mr. Sadler, Solicitor, Sutton Coldfield, or to Mr. Jacob, Land Surveyor, 43 Newhall-street, Birmingham</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SUTTON COLDFIELD</b></p> <p>TO be SOLD by AUCTION, on the premises by HENRY JACOB, To-morrow (Tuesday) Jan. 1, all the neat and clean Household Furniture and Effects of Mrs. Hurdman, in the town of Sutton Coldfield in the country of Warwick, deceased – comprising four-post and tent bedsteads, with hangings, good feather beds, blankets, quilts, and counterpanes, mahogany and oak chests of drawers, dressing tables, and night chests, pier and swing glasses, sofa on castors, mahogany and painted chairs, good mahogany dining, pembroke, card, and pillar tables, kitchen requisites, and brewing utensils. The sale to begin precisely at half past ten.</p> <p>Catalogues may be had at the Three Tuns Inn, Sutton, Cup, Maney, or of the Auctioneer, 43 Newhall-street, Birmingham</p>	BNA

	<p>This dwelling house to be let is Ivy House, former residence of Mrs Hurdman deceased. For Sale are her household effects, i.e. bedding, furniture etc Sarah Holbeche says Mrs Hurdman occupied Ivy House after her [Sarah's]parents moved out, followed by Vincent Holbeche, Willoughby and Addenbrooke, Solicitors</p> <p>Mr Sadler may have been the owner.</p> <p>There was a Barber's shop at No. 24 occupied by Henry Brindley in 1838, as mentioned in an article in the "Proceedings of the Sutton Coldfield Local History Research Group", Volume 3: Spring 1994, Page 2.</p>	SHD, P3 and 41
1838	<p><b>No. 24 High Street was occupied by Henry Brindley, Barber</b></p> <p>See Volume 3 of "Proceedings of the Sutton Coldfield Local History Research Group", Volume 3: Spring 1994, Page 2.</p>	SCLHRG
1841	<p><b>Census Return records the following shopkeepers in the High Street, and eventually had shops in the White House:</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><b>Wm Brentnall (Clock Maker and family)</b> <b>William Wilkins, Shoe Manufacturer, and family</b></p> <p>The following are believed to have had their shops or businesses in Ivy House and in the properties between the White House and Albert Court, now 'Old Bank Place'.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><b>Vincent Holbeche, solicitor - Ivy house</b> <b>Wm Smith, Druggist and family</b> <b>H(enry) Brindley, Baker</b></p>	A
1841	<p><b>Census</b> <b>Eliz Maskell is recorded as living in Albert Court</b></p> <p>As Eliz Maskell was also recorded on the Corn Rent Schedule as living there at Plot 851.9 in 1824, it suggests that the small row of cottages at the back of the High Street properties had now been built.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Albert Court (now Old Bank Place)</p>	 <p>Photo from Keith Jordan's Collection (c1970)</p>
1850	<p><b>6<sup>th</sup> July, 1850. Birth of Richard Holbeche</b></p> <p>Richard's diary is a rich source of information about the history of High Street in the 1850s and he describes the shopkeepers in the above White House – see 1855</p>	RHD

1851	<p><b>The Census of the High St, Sutton Coldfield, shows some of these future shopkeepers or residents in this area.</b></p> <p>Nanny Horton (née Terry), Widow, gentlewoman  William Brentnall (master Clock Maker) and Susannah (wife)  Thomas Rochford (Master Sadler) and Ann his wife (Dress Maker)  Elizabeth Brentnall, unmarried, Shoe Warehouse, and Mary A Brentnall (her sister) School Mistress  William Smith, druggist at Ivy House,  Henry Brindley, Hair dresser</p> <p>The Brentnalls were a family who lived and ran their shops from here for 50 years at least.</p>	A
1851	<p><b>Sarah Holbeche wrote in her Diary:</b></p> <p>May 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851, Mr William Smith took possession of Ivy House in addition to his own.</p> <p>Mr Smith was a chemist.</p>	SHD
1852	<p><b>Death of Richard and Nanny Horton</b></p> <p>Richard Horton was a very wealthy surgeon who owned lots of property in Sutton Coldfield and he was William Terry's partner.</p>	SHD
1853	<p><b>Mr Yeld came to Mr. Horton's house.</b></p>  <p>Beyond the short wall with an opening in it, stood Mr Horton's House. It was knocked down to make way for Midland Drive. Richard Holbeche described it as</p> <p><b>large, square, and ugly, and approached by steps with iron balustrades. It had a yard with great gates, and a good garden and greenhouse at the back. The Gabled houses on the new road opened into the yard. Mr. Yeld was a master at the Grammar School, and took boarders</b></p>	<p>SHD</p> <p>Photo taken from opposite P42 of RHD</p> <p>RHD.</p>





Plot 1920

Owner 1 Harriet Smith, Owner 2 Miss Smith, Owner 3 Mrs Averilla Hurry for some of them (N.B. These ladies are Samuel Smith's daughters who inherited property from father – see The Early Days of the Cottage Estate on [www.sclhr.org.uk](http://www.sclhr.org.uk))

Occupier 1

Henry Bradshaw

Occupier 2 and 3

John Langley

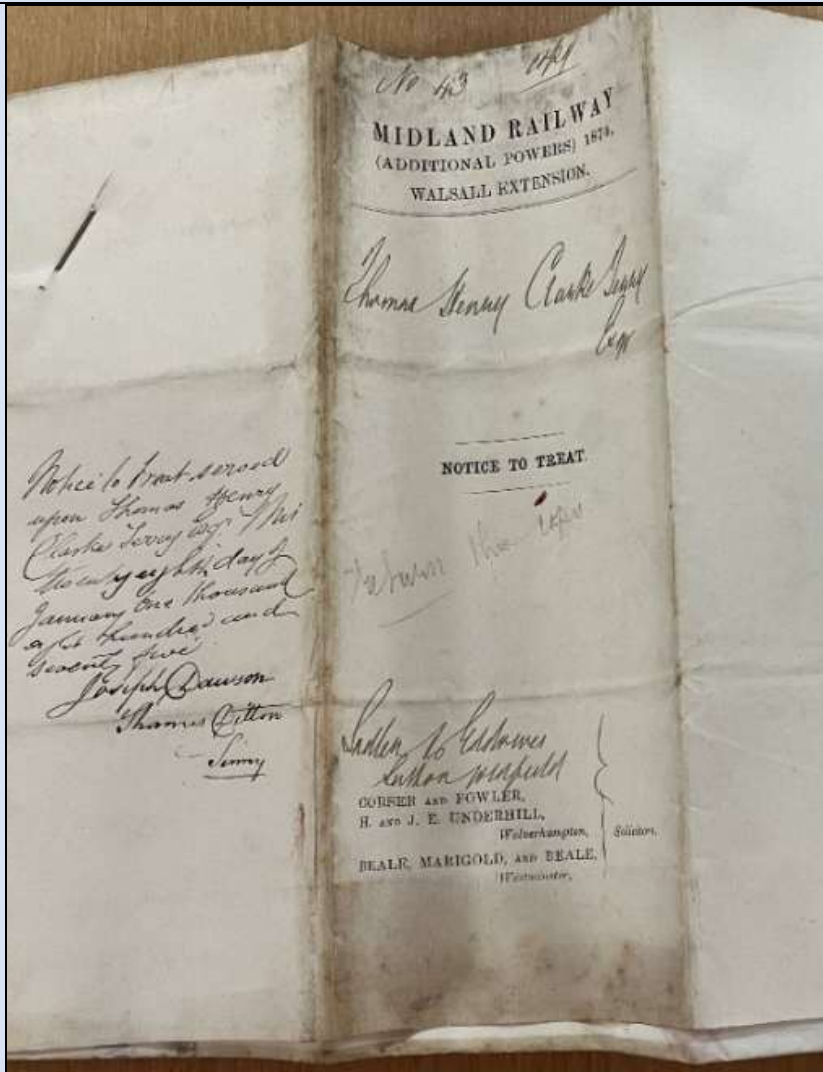
Description

Site of house and Part of Yard

Henry Bradshaw	John Langley	Buildings
Henry Bradshaw	John Langley	House
Henry Bradshaw	John Langley	Share of Brew house
Thomas Bromwich	Charles Willey	Site of House and Part of Yard
Thomas Bromwich	Charles Willey	Buildings
Thomas Bromwich	Charles Willey	House
Thomas Bromwich	Charles Willey	Share of Brewhouse
Lydia Clive		Site of House Garden & Part of Yard
Lydia Clive		Buildings
Lydia Clive		House (Malt House underneath)
Andrew Dunn	?	Site of House, Garden and Part of Yard
Andrew Dunn	?	Buildings
Andrew Dunn	?	House (Malt House underneath)
William Fernyhough	Richard Snead	Site of House and Part of Yard
William Fernyhough	Richard Snead	Buildings
William Fernyhough	Richard Snead	House
William Fernyhough	Richard Snead	Share of Brew House
Joseph Fletcher	?	Site of House and Part of Yard
Joseph Fletcher	?	Buildings
Joseph Fletcher	?	House
Joseph Fletcher	?	Share of Wash House
James Hall	William Colman	Site of House Garden & Part of Yard
James Hall	William Colman	Buildings
James Hall	William Colman	House (Malt House Underneath)
Harry Smith	Void and William Smith	Site of Malt House and Part of Yard
William Smith		Site of Druggist Shop
William Smith		Buildings & Yard
William Smith		Buildings
William Smith		House
William Smith		Store House (Cottage)
William Smith		House (Used as Store House)
William Smith		Stable
William Smith		Stable Lean to
William Smith		Pigsty
Thomas Warwood	Harriet Grimley	Site of House and Part of Yard
Thomas Warwood	Harriet Grimley	Buildings
Thomas Warwood	Harriet Grimley	House
Thomas Warwood	Harriet Grimley	House
Thomas Warwood	Harriet Grimley	Share of Brew House
John Weston		Site of House & Part of Yard
John Weston		Buildings
John Weston		House (Malt House Underneath)
ALSO		



	<p>Elizabeth Brentnall, Shoe Warehouse  William Smith, Druggist &amp; Grocer at Ivy House  Charles Willey, Greengrocer  John Sangley, Clock &amp; Watch Maker</p> <p>This shows that little had changed in the White House in recent years.</p>	
1864	<p>In June the Post Office was removed to Red Lion House (presumably the White House) and Rochford took over Wilkins' house. Wilkins was Post Mistress. On Aug 1<sup>st</sup> Miss Lloyd opened a branch bank by Mr W. Smith Druggist</p>	SHD
1866	<p>William Brentnall died. (See his photo in 1855.)</p>	SHD p87
1868	<p>Newscutting dated 21<sup>st</sup> November 1868 from Aris's gazette</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>HIGH STREET, SUTTON COLDFIELD</b></p> <p>LOT 7 – All that valuable FREEHOLD PROPERTY, comprising the three desirable two-story RETAIL SHOPS, DWELLING HOUSES, AND Premises, one now used as the Post Office and Savings Bank, in the occupation of Mrs. Wilkins, and the others being in the respective occupations of Mrs. Brentnall, Stationer, and Miss E. Brentnall, Boot and Shoe Dealer; the whole producing at very low rents an annual sum of £40... Further particulars and plans may be obtained from Messrs Holbeche and Addenbrooke, Solicitors, Sutton Coldfield; or of the Auctioneers, 39 Cannon Street, Birmingham, and High Street, Sutton Coldfield.</p>	BNA
1869	<p>In March 1869, Sarah said they had been 21 years in their house (i.e.58 High St) ~ Mr Horton was their first landlord succeeded by a Major Terry</p>	SHD P139 KO
1869	<p>Mrs S. Brentnall (presumably Susannah, wife of William) founded 'The Sutton Coldfield News'. She ran her business at this time from the White House</p>	SCLHRG (see The Warden's Calendar)
1871	<p><b>Census</b></p> <p>Susannah Brentnall, Head, Wid. 50, Stationer, b. Stafford, Cumberford  Betsy Brentnall, Dau, Unm. 18 Assistant, b. Warwickshire, Sutton Coldfield  Emily ditto, Dau, 14 Scholar, ditto, ditto  Ann Wilkins, Head, wid, 54, Post Mistress, Staffords, Stretton  Alfred ditto, Son, Unm, 20, Assistant, Warwickshire, Sutton Coldfield  Elizabeth Brentnall, Head, Unm, 51, Shoe Warehouse, Warwickshire, Sutton Coldfield  Wm Smith, Head, Mar, 64, Chemist, Staffords, Lichfield  Maria ditto, Dau, Unm, 32, Warwicks, Sutton Coldfield  Elizabeth ditto, Dau, Unm, 30, Ditto, Ditto  Francis E ditto, ditto, Unm, 26, ditto, ditto</p> <p>These people are listed in the High Street against the White House and neighbouring properties.</p>	A
1875	<p><b>Notice to Treat document</b></p>	LNWR, Bundle of papers, SCL



The Midland Railway were building their line to Walsall, which ran behind the properties to the east of the High Street. This necessitated the compulsory purchase of land on the eastern side of the High Street and the building of the Town Station and Sutton Park Station. The owners of the properties were compensated and this document shows some belonged to Thomas Henry Clarke Terry. In effect, this railway line cut a swathe through part of *Cross o'th'hand* land.

1872

**Kelly's Directory**

KD

**Susannah Brentnall, Mrs, stationer, High Street**

1879

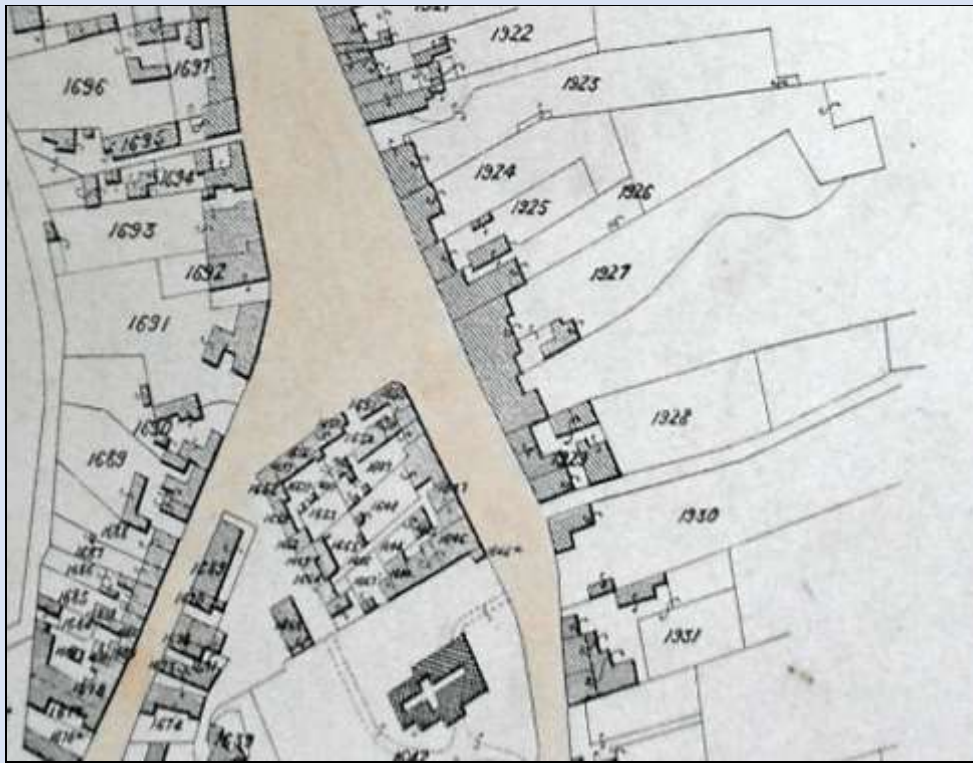
**Roger Lea writes that**

SCRL  
P125

**in 1879 the Midland Railway opened its line through Sutton Park and Walmley, connecting its Black Country lines with its East Midland network at Water Orton**

This ran to the east of the High Street, requiring a new railway station to be built called 'Sutton Town', and an access road to it from the High Street. This road caused Mr Horton's house (later inhabited by Mr. Yeld) to be knocked down. It was on Plot 1923 shown in the attached extract from the Parochial Valuation Map 1857.

PV



Initially, this road was named 'Station Street' or 'Station Drive' but finally it settled as 'Midland Drive', the site of which is just before the first shop to the left of this postcard of Coleshill Street, Sutton Coldfield 1887

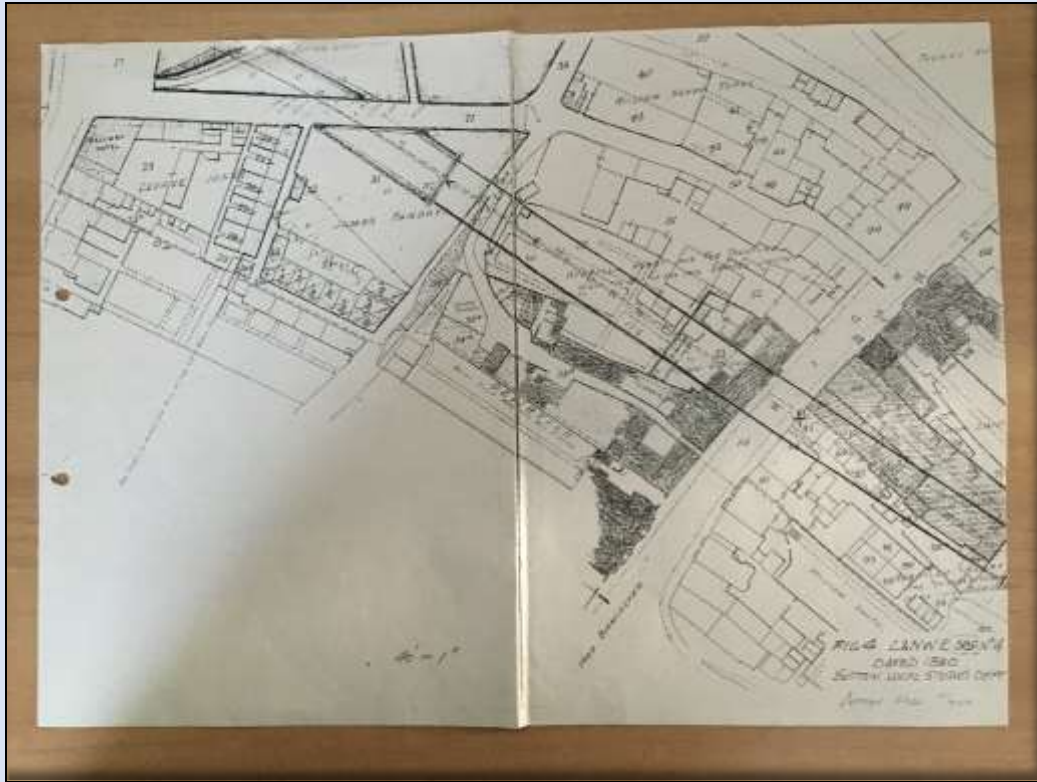


Old Photograph sold by Birmingham Public Libraries (from Keith Jordan's Collection)

1881 Census ~ High Street

Susannah Brentnall, widow of William, 60, stationer

A



This map shows the tunnel that had to be made crossing under the High Street and continuing on under the houses on the eastern side. From this, it is possible to see how many miscellaneous buildings had occupied the rear of the High Street premises to the east.

L&amp;NWR 1880

**Roger Lea states:**

When the LNWR obtained its Act of Parliament for the Lichfield Extension Railway, all the land and property along the route had to be bought. The railway company purchased the High Street properties which stood above the planned tunnel. . . On the eastern side of High Street were two shops with a yard at the back giving access to seven cottages; the shops and three cottages were knocked down but the other four cottages are still there today in Old Bank Place. The site of the shops was left vacant until the 1930s, when new premises, 26 and 28 High Street, were built.

SCLHRG,  
History Spot  
[146 -  
Tunnel]

The LNWR engineers decided to make the tunnel in two parts, a conventional tunnel from the station to High Street, and then 'cut and cover'. The cut and cover method involved making a very deep cutting down to the level of the track. When the track had been laid the cutting was roofed over and filled back up to ground level. The tunnel should have linked up with the cut and cover section, but a mistake was made and the tunnel was found to be at too high a level. The tunnel had to be lowered by several feet - it is said that the roof of the original tunnel is still there, a few feet above the roof of the existing tunnel, a spooky void beneath Railway Road.

1888

1888 Victorian OS Map depicts the lay-out of the subsequent crossing of the two railways and the following photos show what it looks like from above.

Victorian Map in author's possession.



Photograph from Keith Jordan's collection



Photograph taken from SCLHRG (History Spot 146)

The opening to the sky (in the distance) occurs beyond the cottages in Albert Place (later Old Bank Place)

1887

**Electoral Register:**

SCL

Elizabeth Brentnall, High St  
 Hannah Rochford, Coleshill St  
 Thomas Storer Eddowes, house, Tudor Hill

1887

**Queen Victoria's Jubilee Day**

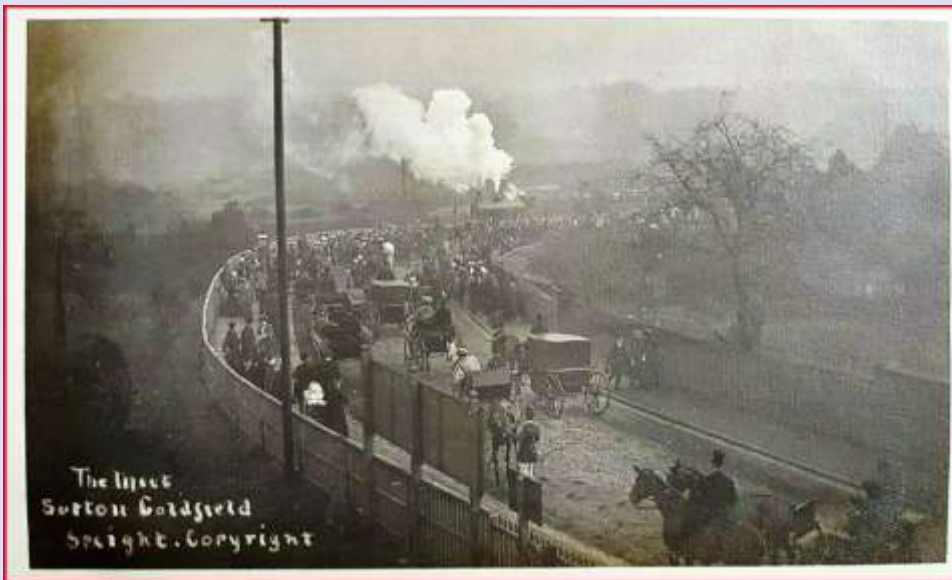
Photo from  
Keith Jordan's  
Collection



Note the buildings with the three green windows on the corner of Midland Drive. These are soon to be demolished (see 1900). It is not known when they were built.

1889

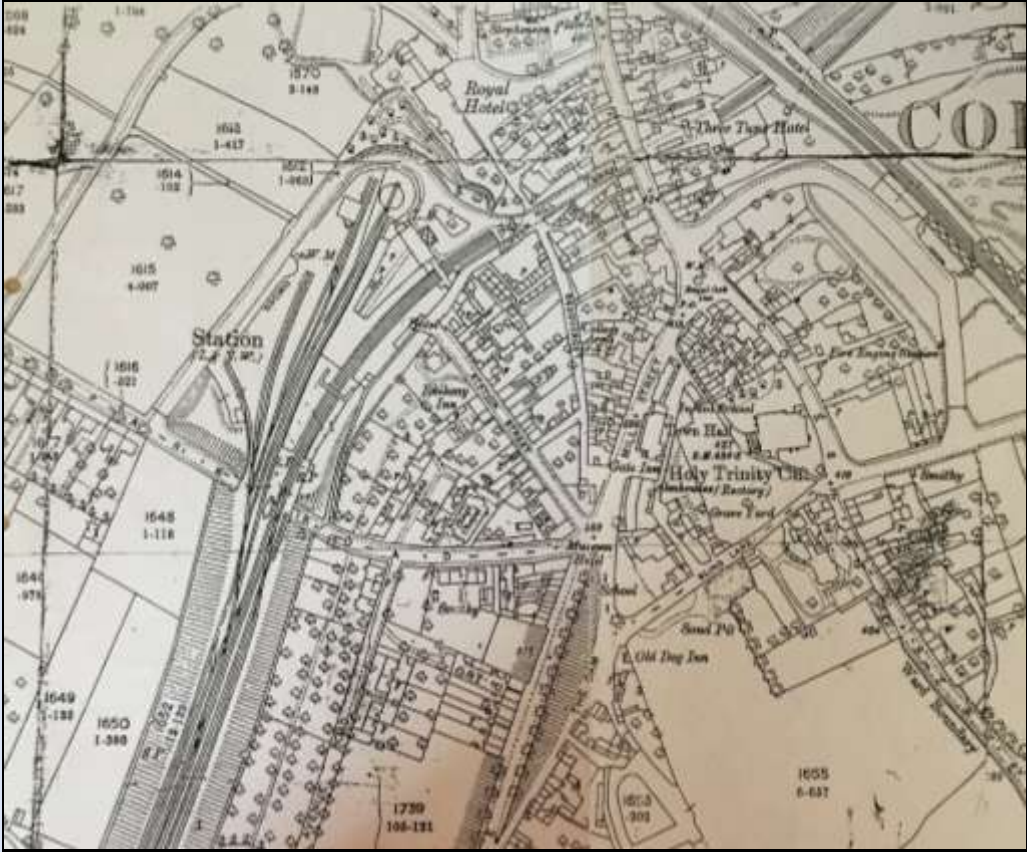
**Postcard from the Speight Family studios in the Parade, Sutton Coldfield**



Permission was allowed to show this photograph following an online talk about the Speight Photographers of Sutton Coldfield during Covid (2021). It shows Midland Drive at the time of the Horse Racing Events to be held at Four Oaks. The train is waiting at the station, ready to take racegoers to one of the Meetings, the last of which took place in 1889.

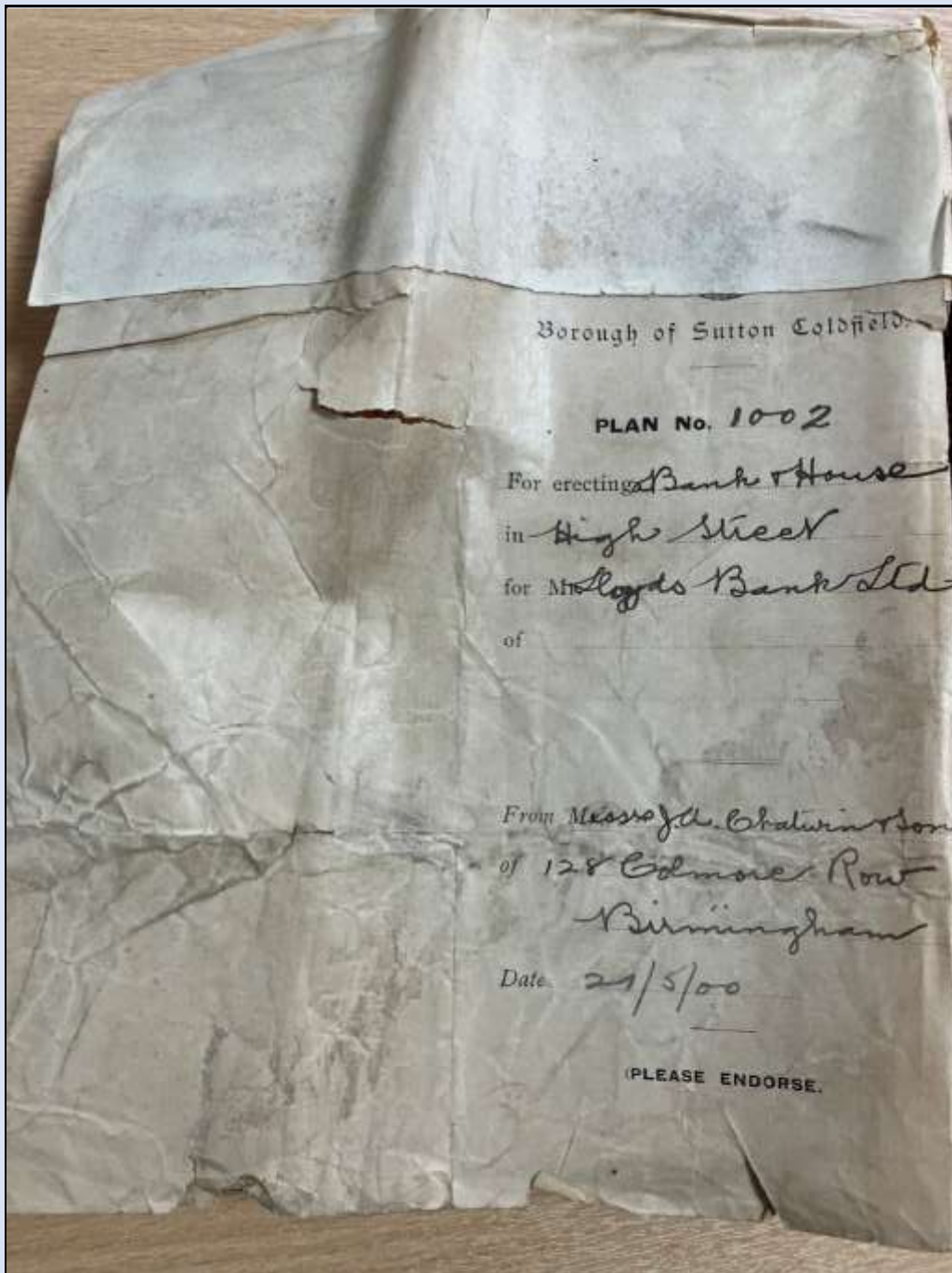
The view overlooks the current Good Hope Hospital and Rectory Park Area of Sutton Coldfield.

SCLHRG, Vol  
6, P24

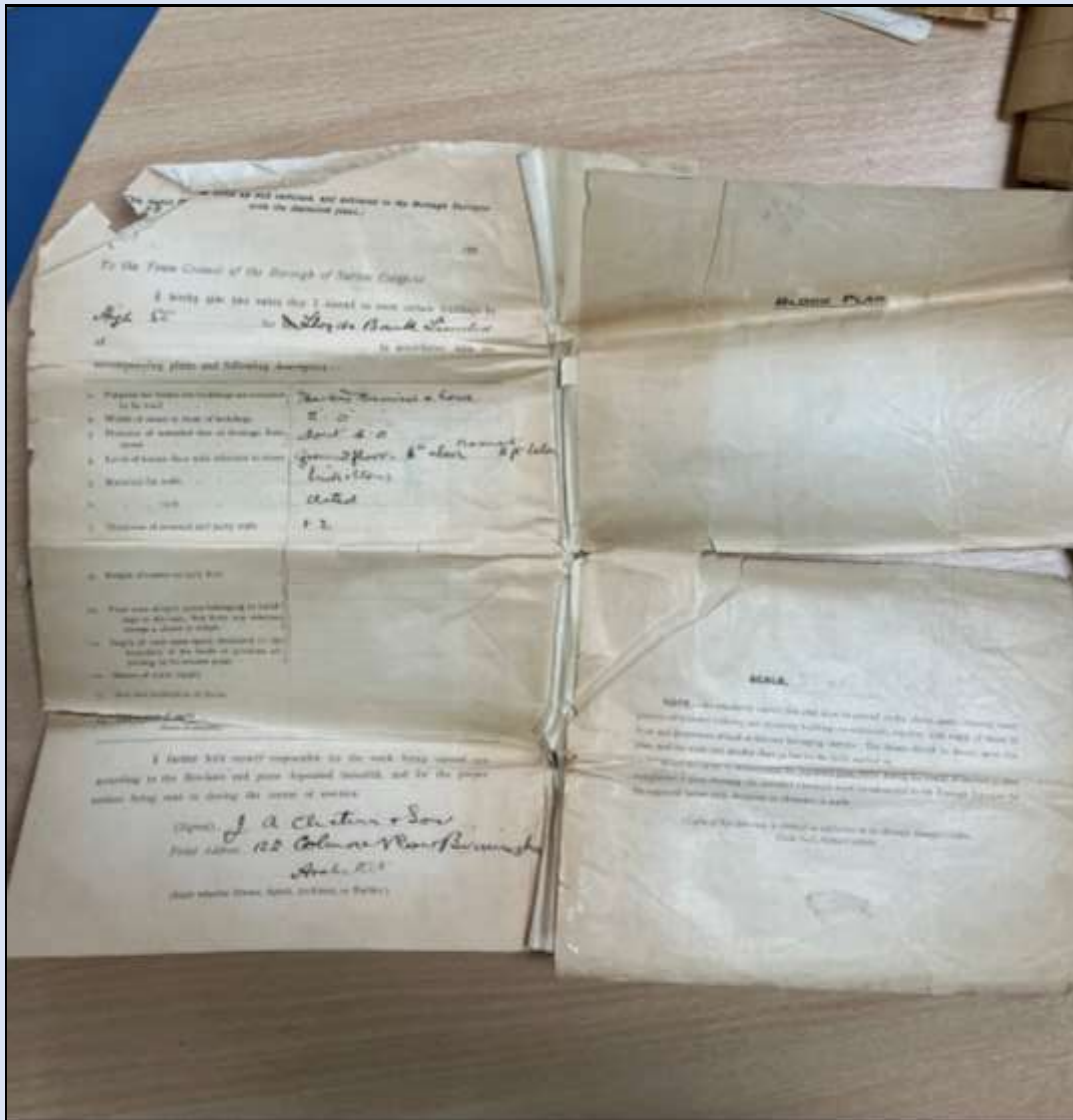
1889	<p><b>OS Map</b></p>  <p>This map shows the numerous buildings behind the properties in the High Street in 1889</p>	SCL
1890	<p><b>Electoral Register:</b></p> <p><i>Susan Brentnall, High St, House</i>  <i>Elizabeth Brentnall, High St, House</i></p>	SCL
1891	<p><b>Census</b></p> <p>A Miscellany of occupants lived in High Street, for whom it is difficult to establish exact locations. Amongst their occupations were general servants, plumbers, bookkeepers, platelayers, chandlers, laundresses, grooms, workers on the railway, butchers, etc, and I would suggest they owned a form of tenement. It is, however, noted that Elizabeth Brentnall, Boot Dealer, occupied 3 rooms and Susannah Brentnall and her daughter Emily were still trading in the High Street, both presumably in the White House.</p>	A
1895 1896 1897 1898	<p><b>Electoral Registers:</b></p> <p><b>Susan Brentnall, 14 High Street</b>  <b>Elizabeth Brentnall 18 High Street</b></p>	SCL
1900	<p><b>Building Planning Application (No. 1002) by Lloyds Bank to build a Bank and House in High Street</b></p> <p>Lloyds Bank, who had opened a branch at 24 High Street in 1864, now put in the following Building Planning Application (No. 1002) to Sutton Coldfield Borough Council, with a proposal to erect a House on the corner of Midland Drive with a</p>	SCLHRG BPI Plans now with Birmingham Archives

Banking Premises. Two new shops would be built on the ground floor and there would also be provision for Club rooms . It will be noticed from the plans that the White House is to be incorporated into the new Bank Premises.

Here are some pages from the Planning Application No. 1002, dated 21<sup>st</sup> May 1900, courtesy of Sutton Coldfield Library.



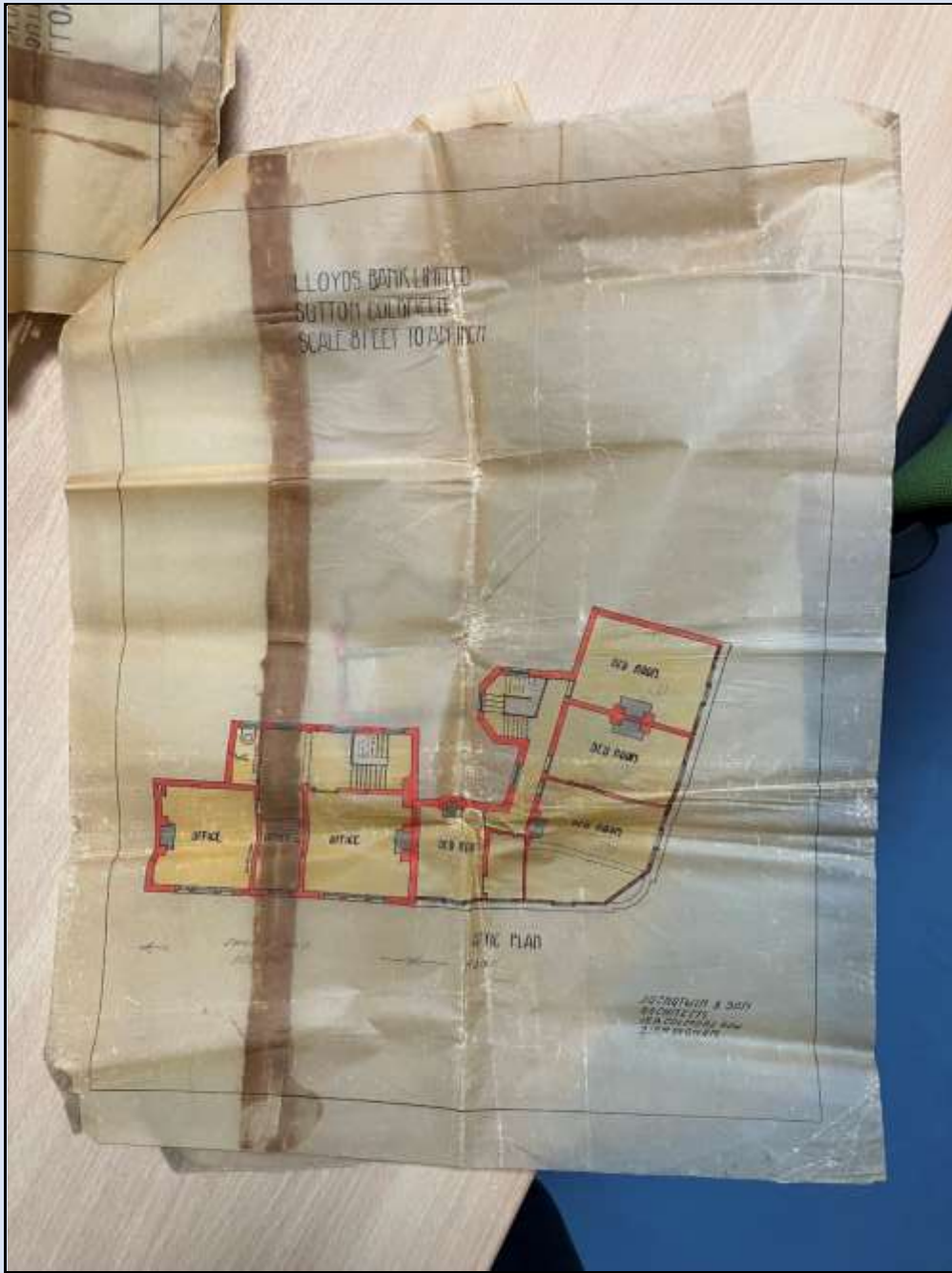
Cover of Planning Application 1002 dated 21/5/00



Inside of the Planning Application Form



Block Plan  
N.B. Station Drive, later to become Midland Drive



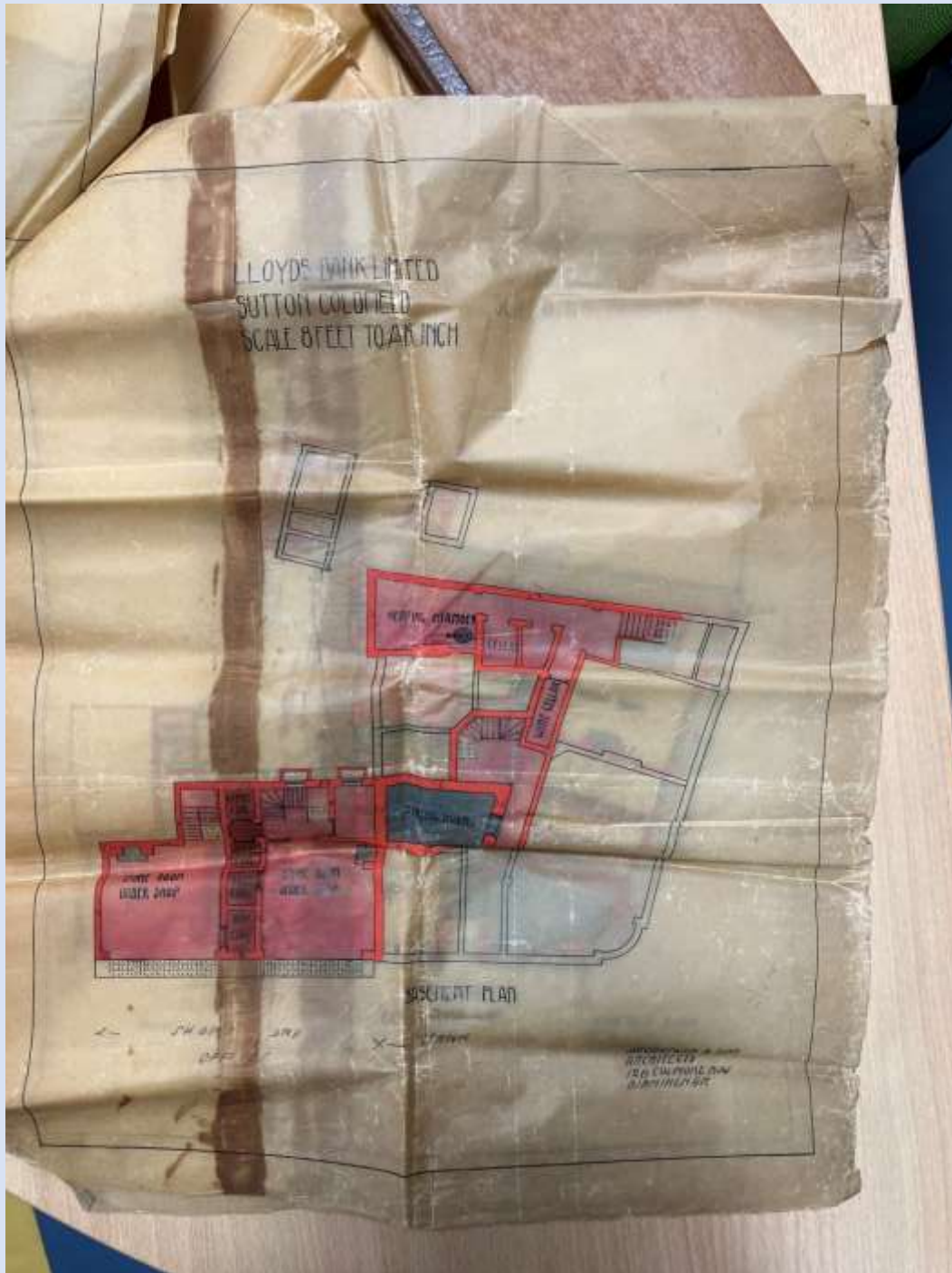
The Attic Plan allowing for four bedrooms, and three offices in the White House.



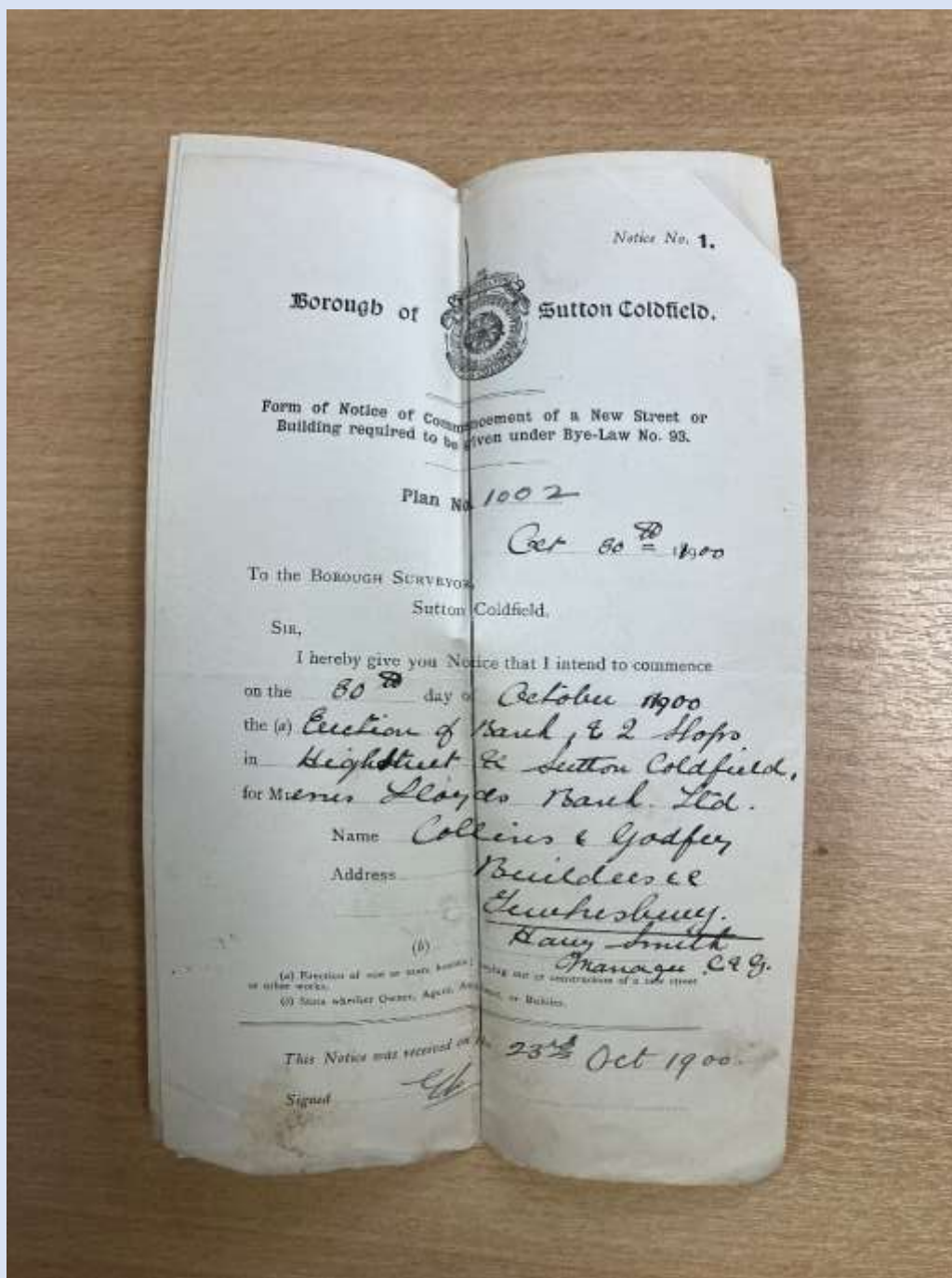
The First Floor Plan, providing for three more bedrooms, a drawing room and a dressing room and three more offices in the White House.



The Ground Floor Plan with a Dining Room and what appears to be a Banking Hall with a Consulting Room, a Strong Room and the usual utilities. Two Lock Up Shops appear to be kept separate from the Banking premises and do not seem to be included in the fascia of the Bank building



The Basement Plan provides Store Rooms for the Shops. A totally different Frontage seems to be indicated for the White House and perhaps this was the time it was altered to show it as a completely different entity to the Bank?



Notice 1

Borough of  Sutton Coldfield.

Form of Notice as to Foundations required to be given under Bye-Law No. 93.

Plan No. 1002

Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 1901

To the Borough Surveyor,  
Sutton Coldfield.

Sir,

I hereby give Notice that the Foundations of the building in course of erection in High Street Sutton Coldfield, belonging to Mess Leazes Bank now (a) ready for your inspection.

Signed Harry Smith  
Address Leazes New Bank Sutton Coldfield

(b) Manager for Builders

(a) At least 48 hours' notice must be given before the date of receipt by the Borough Surveyor.  
(b) State whether Owner, Agent, Architect, or Builder.

This Notice was received 1/1/01 at 10.40 a.m.

Signed W.S. Bickford

Foundations Inspected by W.S. Bickford on 1/1/01

Report Satisfactory

Notice 2

Borough of  Sutton Coldfield.

Form of Notice as to Damp-Course.

Plan No. *1002*

*January 7 1901*

To the Borough Surveyor,  
Sutton Coldfield.

Sir,

I hereby give Notice that the Damp-Course  
of the building in course of erection in *High Street*  
belonging to *Mr. Lloyd's Bank* is now (a)  
ready for your inspection.

Signed *J. Whittaker*

Address \_\_\_\_\_

(b)

(a) At least 48 hours' notice must be given of the time of receipt by the Borough Surveyor.  
(b) State whether Owner, Agent, Architect, or Builder.

This Notice was received on *Jan 7* at *2/40*.

Signed *J. J. M.*

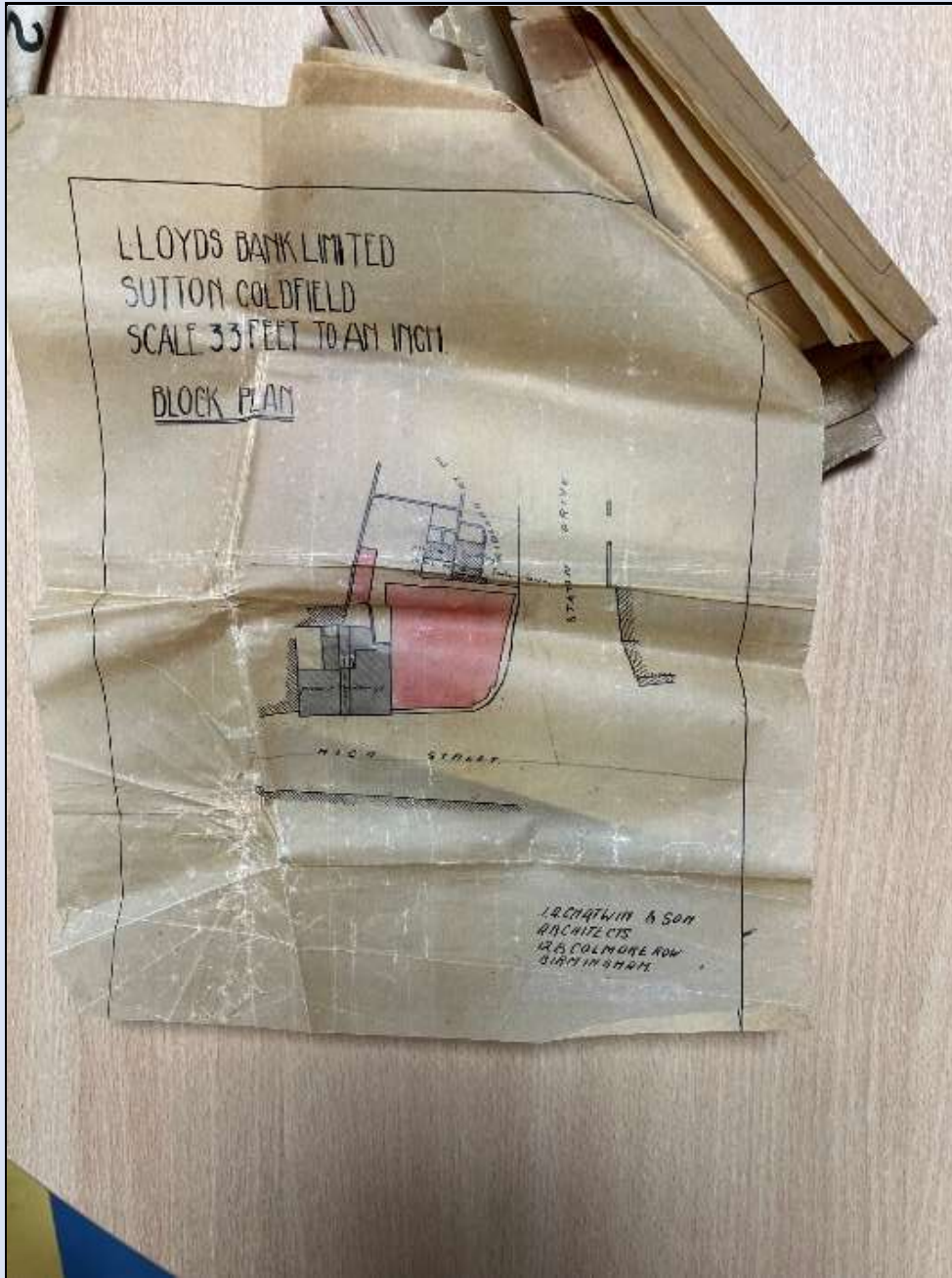
Damp-Course Inspected by *J. J. M.* = *7/1/01*

Report *Satisfactory*

Notice 3

Planning Permission for a Proposed Club was also applied for under the same Planning Application No. 1002 as above and was attached to it.

SCLHRG  
BPI  
Plans now with Birmingham Archives



Block Plan for Proposed Club



Basement Plan for Proposed Club

The Coal and Wine Stores are under the Entrance Way and it is wondered if this would reveal the basement of the Red Lion Inn, which may have been built in the 1600s?



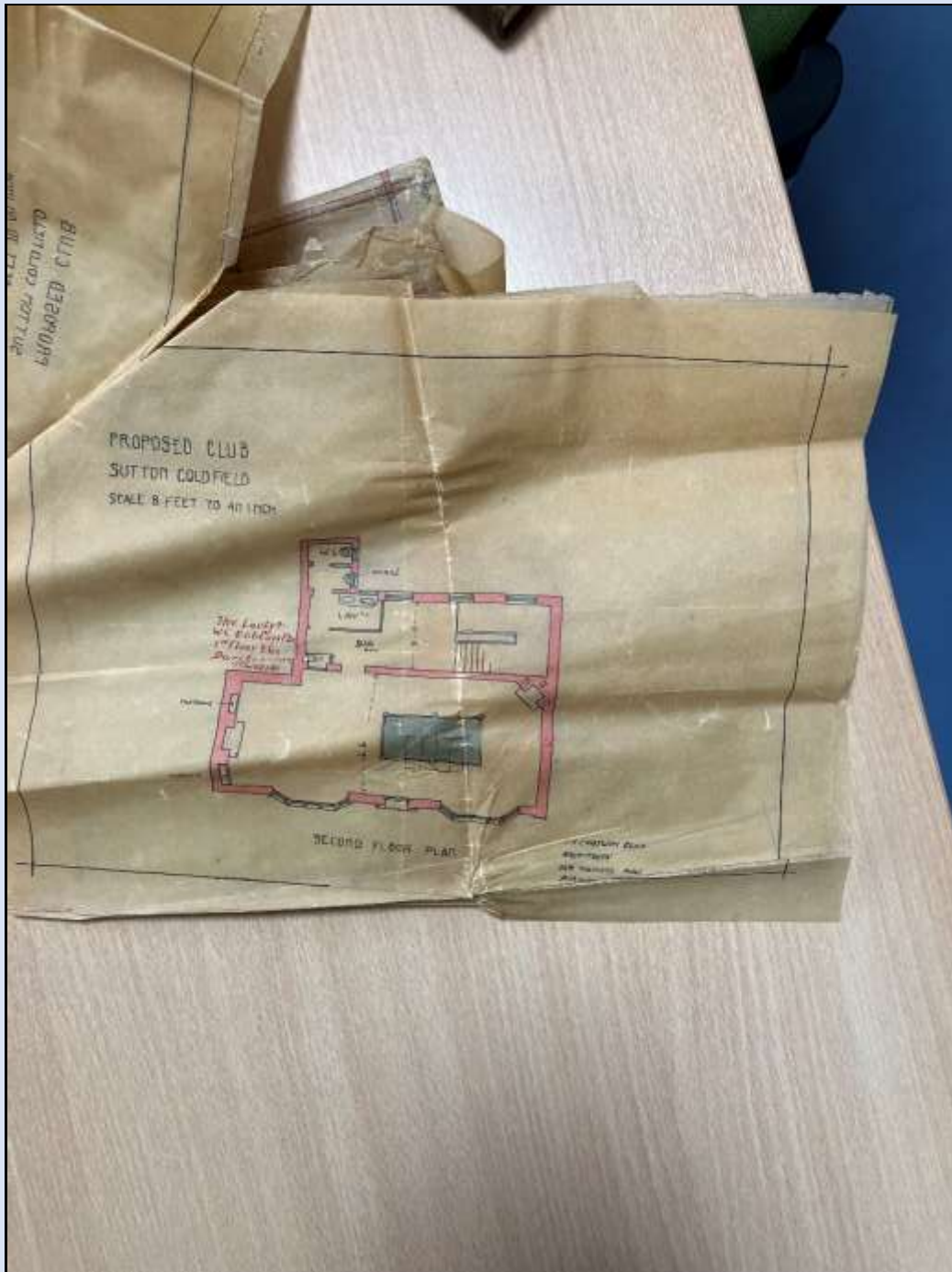
Ground Floor Plan for Proposed Club

This floor includes two shops  
The new fascia is in place from the Ground Floor upwards



### **The First Floor Plan for the Proposed Club**

This provides for a Reading Room, a Card Room and a Bar



### The Second Floor Plan

This provides a billiard table and a bar.

1901

**Census**

High Street

Bank

?

Chemists' Shop

1 Albert Place

2 Albert Place

3 Albert Place

4 Albert Place

Alfred J. Knill, Bank Manager

Eliza G. Smith, Living on own means

Thomas B. Cattell, Drug Chemist

John Cox, Railway Labourer

George Brown, Retired Labourer

John Jennings, Coal Haulier

Joseph Preston, Pointsman, LNWR

Susan Brentnall, widow, aged 80, is now recorded at Rectory Road, a retired stationer. She had worked at the White House for approximately 50 years, dying on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1907.

A

Circa 1905

**Lloyds Bank, house and banking premises**



Photo from Keith Jordan's collection.

The Lloyds Bank premises is a house with banking rooms on the ground floor. Its logo, a moulding on the High Street frontage, appears to be a swarm of bees around a honey pot.

Aurthor's Photo, date unknown

Note that the White House has now been given a new façade.



1907

Photograph showing the period between the building of the tunnel under Nos 22 and 24 High Street and the erection of two new shops c1930.

Photo No. 3107 from Keith Jordan's collection



Notice the brick wall just beyond No. 24, which seems to have a form of banner above it. If one looked over the wall, presumably there would be waste ground which had been the fill-in following the building of the tunnel.

1911

### Census

#### High Street

The Bank House

Archie Harris, Bank Manager, Lloyds Bank

20 High Street

Eliza Gertrude Smith

22 & 24 High Street

Thomas Bellamy Cattell, Chemist (shopkeeper)

1 Albert Place

Eli Perkins, Platelayer on Railway

2 Albert Place

Emma Brown, Charwoman

3 Albert Place

John Jennings, Coal Haulier

4 Albert Place

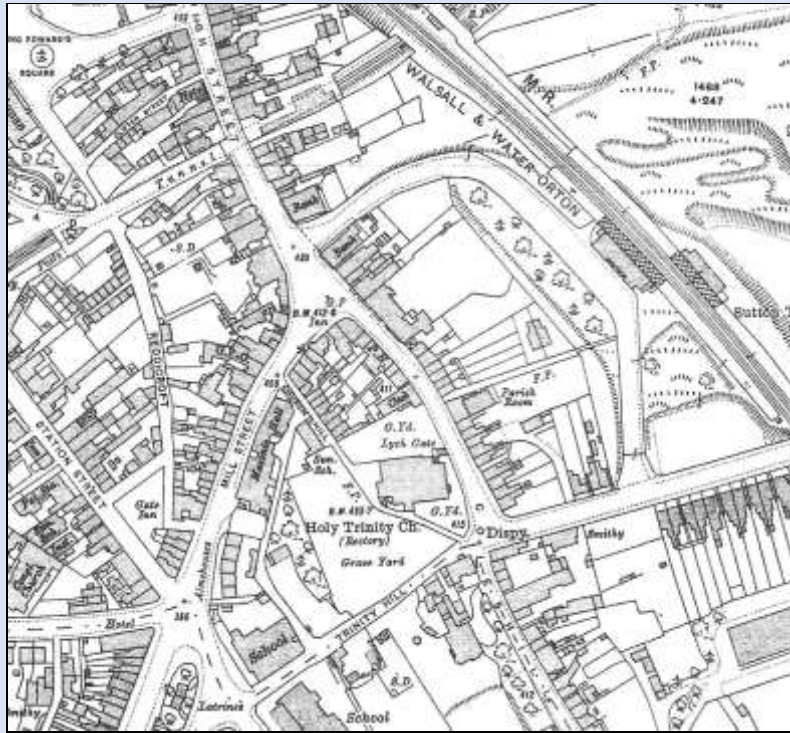
John Thomas Moore, Drayman LNW Railway

A

1913

Alan Godfrey OS Map

Map in Author's possession



The new Lloyds Bank building is now on the corner of Midland Drive. The White House seems to have nobody living in it at this time, so perhaps it was used totally as offices or a club for Lloyds Bank.

1920

Photograph c1920.

Photo, unknown origin

See also SCLHRG (History Spot (146)

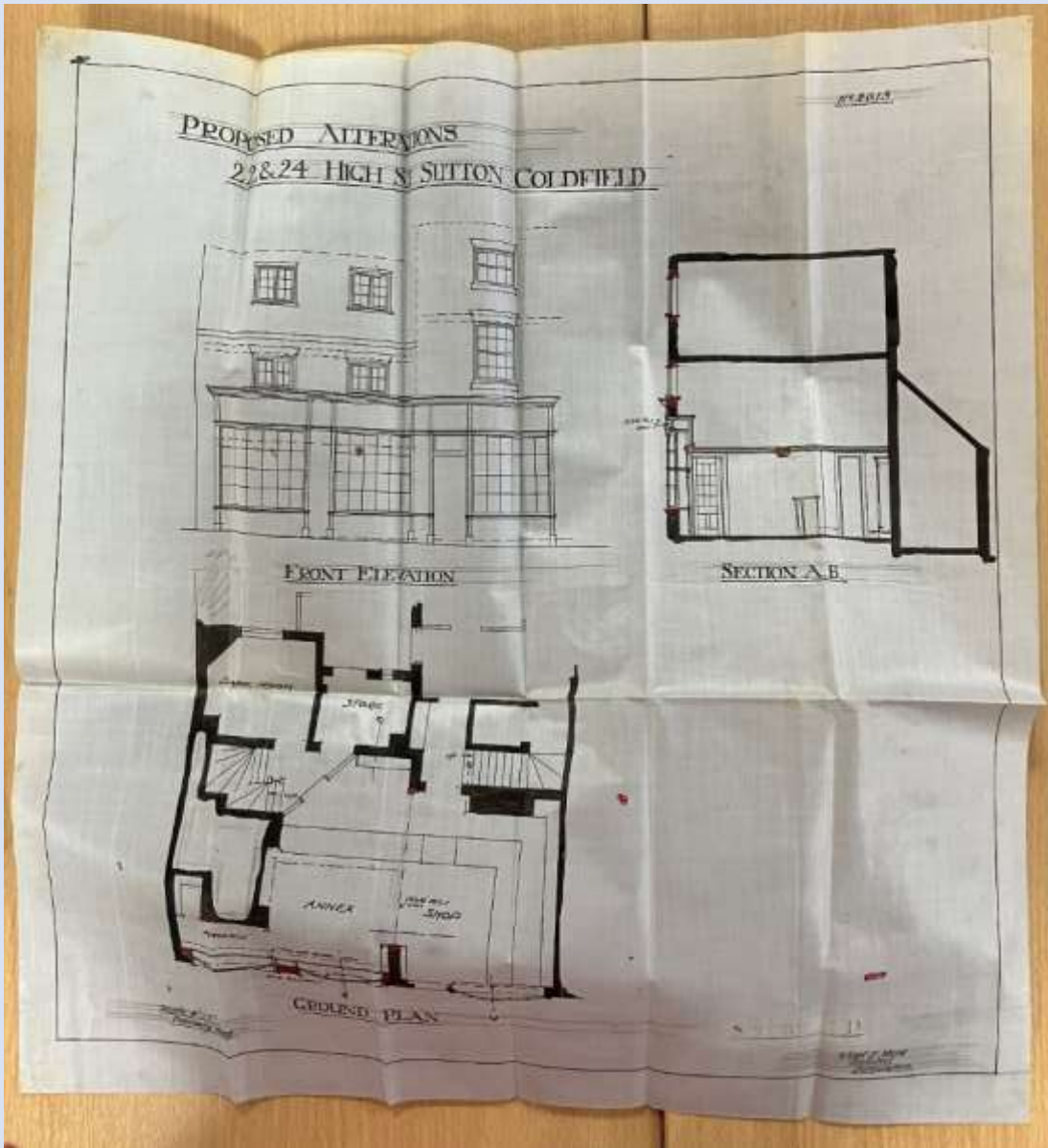


PHOTO HIGH STREET, SUTTON COLDFIELD A. C. ASTON

This photograph was taken before the building of Nos 26 and 28 High Street

1921	<p><b>Census</b></p> <p><u>High Street</u>  Harry Lorraine Mortimore                      Bank Manager, Lloyds Bank Limited  Eliza Gertrude Smith                              Home Duties, 8 High Street  A E Cattell, High Street                           Employer, Chemists' business carried  on by late husband's Executors.</p> <p>Eli Perkins, 1 Albert Place                      Platelayer LNW Railway  Fanny Louisa Bickley, 2 Albert Place        Home Duties  John Jennings, 3 Albert Place                Road Repairer,  John Thomas Moore, 4 Albert Place        Brick Layers' Labourer</p>	A
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1925	<p><b>Building Planning Application .No. 4040 for Proposed Alterations to 22 and 24 High Street</b></p>	BPI No. 4040 at SCL
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New shop fronts are proposed for Nos 22 and 24 and this plan shows that, in 1925, this was one combined property, despite the appearance of having two frontages. Of course, there may have originally been one house, subsequently divided into two, although no dates have been discovered yet.

1930

**Roger Lea states that:**

**New premises were built in the 1930s, Nos 26 and 28 High Street.**



This photograph taken in 1966 shows a new low level white building to the far right of this photo beyond the white building with its awning out. I believe this to be Nos 26 and 28

SCLHRG  
(History Spot  
146)

Photograph  
No.2505 in  
Keith Jordan's  
Collection.

1939

**1939 England and Wales Register**

2 Old Bank Place	Charles W. Middleton	Sales Rep., Post Office Telephones
4 Ditto	Leon D. Goldsmith	Works Manager
5 Ditto	Kenneth Messey	Overseas Official
20 High Street	Annie M. Cattell	Unpaid Domestic Duties
14 Ditto	Francis Grant	Bank Manager

N.B. 'Old Bank Place' was formerly 'Albert Place'.

A

**OS Map, 1962**

This map shows the change of name from Albert Place to Old Bank Place. It is not known when this change took place.



SCL

1976

Newscutting of 26<sup>th</sup> November 1976

SCL  
Newscuttings  
1976



The reference here to a house and adjoining inn seems to be a mistake as the 'adjoining inn' to the right of the picture is Ivy House and this was never known to be an Inn but a house.

1995

Photo taken in 1995

Photo No. 250  
taken from  
Keith Jordan's  
Collection.



The extension here gives access to the rear of the building and is above the railway tunnel of the 1880s. The building itself was put up in the 1930 and I believe was No. 26 and 28 High Street.

It will be noted that in-depth research of this project finished around 1900. I was unable to gain easy access to records after this date as Sutton Coldfield Library's local studies material was removed to Birmingham Central Library. However, it has been confirmed that searches can still be made there under the Sutton Coldfield Library references.

Janet Jordan  
Sutton Coldfield Local History Research Group  
January 2026

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The following is just a miscellany of photographs taken between 1900 and 2025 of the area in question which may be of interest.



Author's photograph, of Entrance to Old Bank Place, date unknown



This corner building is how 14 High Street looked in 2020 during the Coronavirus pandemic. The building is believed to be apartments in 2025. To the north of it is the converted White House, formerly the Red Lion, with a façade believed to have been built c1900. Note the chimney stacks of what is now 16 and 18 High Street, which I believe were part of the White House.



Author's photograph taken from Railway Road in 2025. Note the side of the converted White House, showing what I believe may have been the original chimney stack.



Author's photo taken in 2025 of 22 and 24 High Street. Note the two upstairs windows of No. 24 (See 1772 – photo of 24 High Street only has one upstairs window).



Author's photograph taken in 2025 of Ivy House, No. 20 High Street



Author's photo taken in 2025 of the converted White House, No. 16 and 18 High Street with its new façade, which is probably 125 years old. Notice the old Entrance Way, which has been blocked up for a very long time. Also notice the position of the chimney stacks at either end of this building compared with to those in the c1860 photo of the White House. This would appear to justify the assumption that when Lloyds Bank premises were built in 1900 they incorporated a third of the White House into their new Banking premises.



Author's photograph taken in 2025 from the rear of Ivy House.



Author's photograph taken in 2025 from the rear of Old Bank Place showing the back of the cottages.



Author's photograph of the Cottages in Old Bank Place, c2024