

HITCHMOUGH'S BLACK COUNTRY PUBS



1876

ELEPHANT & CASTLE

STAFFORD ROAD/CANNOCK ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON

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ELEPHANT AND CASTLE

1, Stafford Road, (Lower Stafford Street) / 1, Cannock Road, WOLVERHAMPTON

OWNERS

Joseph Newton [1871]
Manchester Brewery Co. Ltd. [1892], [1905]
North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd. [1907]
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1909)
Avebury Taverns Ltd. (acquired in 1999) [2001]

LICENSEES

Samuel Davis [1833] – [1841]
John Edwin Cotterill [1842] – [1865]
Thomas Wardell [1868] – **1870**);
Joseph Newton **(1870 – 1875)**;
John Mundy **(1875 – 1877)**;
Agnes Bradhurst **(1877 – [1881]**
Patrick O’Kane [1883] – [1892]
John Steward [1896]
James Richards [1896] – **1898**)
J Richards [1900]
John King [1901] manager
George Philip Sidney Davey [1904]
Frederick Lewis Williams [1908]
Harry Banks [1911] – [1912]
John Langley [1916]
Thomas Harry Lee [1921] – [1932]
George Edward Giles [1939]
Sydney Jones [1940]
Benjamin Davies **(1941 – 1957)**;
Doris May Davies **(1957 – 1974)**;
Reginald Mincher **(1974 – 1977)**
Phil Cartwright [1981]
I Harding [1989]
Stephen Hoare **(1989 – [1990]**
Mandy Smith [1992] – **1995**);
Charan Lally **(1995 – []**
Paul Bennett [1995]
Maureen Reynolds []
Susan Ann Baggott []



1906



1992

NOTES

Stafford Street [1849], [1850]
Stafford Road [1861]
Cannock Road [1860], [1862], [1868], [1896], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1931]
1, Stafford Road [1896], [1939]
1, Cannock Road [1891], [1901], [1940]

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE TAVERN [1850]

It had a beerhouse license.

It had its own brewhouse.

Samuel Davis = Samuel Davies

Samuel Davis, maltster and retail brewer, Stafford Street. [1833]

Samuel Davis, retailer of beer, Cannock Road. [1835]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/8/1840

"The Magistrates have fixed upon Friday, the 21st instant, to hold a session for granting public house licenses.

The following is a list of persons applying for new licenses.....

Samuel Davies, corner of Cannock Road."

[Not granted.]

1841 Census

Cannock Road

[1] *Samuel Davis* (55), publican;

[2] *Mary Davis* (45), born Staffordshire;

[3] *Emma Horton* (20), f. s., born Staffordshire:

Lor III.—All that old established and well accustomed PUBLIC-HOUSE, with the malthouse, brew-house, outbuildings, and garden thereto belonging, situate and fronting to Stafford-street aforesaid, and known by the sign of the "Elephant and Castle," and now in the occupation of Mr. Cotterill.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/9/1842 - Advert

"Valuable Freehold Public and Other Houses and Building Land, Stafford Street, Wolverhampton.

To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Walker and Page, at the PEACOCK INN, in Wolverhampton, on Friday, the 30th day of September, 1842, at five o'clock in the afternoon, in the following or such lot or lots as shall be agreed upon, and subject to conditions to be produced at the time of sale.....

Lot III. All that old established and well accustomed Public House, with the malthouse, brewhouse, outbuildings, and garden thereto belonging, situate and fronting to Stafford Street aforesaid, and known by the sign of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Cotterill*....."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/4/1843

"We regret to find that, by mistake, Mr. *J. Cotterill*, of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Stafford Street, was stated, in our last, to have been fined for keeping his house open at an improper time. The party convicted was Mr. John Cotterill, beershop keeper, in the Deanery Row."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/6/1844 - Advert

"To be Sold by Private Contract, One Hundred and Eighty-five square yards of Freehold Building Land, situate at the end of the houses adjoining the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, and Fronting the Cannock Road.

Apply to Mr. Thomas Gibbons, King Street."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/11/1845

"At the Public-office, on Friday last, Thomas Evans, licensed victualler, who pleaded guilty to having kept his house open during the usual hours of divine service on the morning of Sunday, the 12th of October, was fined 5s and costs.

John Edwin Cotterill, licensed victualler, was convicted in the penalty of 10s and costs, for a like offence. It appeared from the evidence of Inspector Stewart that seven men were found drinking in the house."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/12/1845

"An inquest was led on Tuesday evening, at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Cannock Road, in this town, on the body of Thomas Hinsley, aged about sixty years, who had been found drowned in the Birmingham canal, on Monday morning week. The deceased had filled the situation of night-keeper at the Spring lock, and had fallen into the canal on three former occasions – twice near the bridge over the canal at Gorsebrook. On Sunday evening he was seen walking by the side of the canal towards the Spring lock; the night was dark. As he did not return home at his usual time on Monday morning, inquiries were made after him, and the canal was dragged near the bridge at Gorsebrook,

where his body was found quite dead and cold. The man who found him gave it as his opinion that the deceased had fallen into the canal in consequence of his sight being defective, and the road under the bridge, where he was found, being very narrow and dangerous. Verdict, Found Drowned.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1846

“An inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on Monday last, at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Cannock Road, on the body of Thomas Taylor, a boy between fourteen and fifteen years of age, who was thrown into the canal by the jerking of the tow line of a boat, which he assisted to manage. He was in the water about ten minutes, and was taken out quite dead. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/7/1849

“On Monday night last a fight took place in the yard at the back of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Stafford Road, between Francis Yates and John Carter, two men employed on the railway in course of formation in that neighbourhood. They were both in liquor, having been drinking together during the day, and a quarrel having ensued the parties fought. Carter was severely wounded on the head, and was afterwards attended by Mr. E. F. Dehane, surgeon, and his assistant, Mr. Brown, but he died on the following morning (yesterday), about six o’clock, from the injuries he had received.”

AND

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/8/1849

“Francis Yates, a respectable looking man, was placed in the dock, charged with the manslaughter of John Carter. In reply to inquiries from Mr. Leigh, it was stated that Mr. Phillips, the coroner, had summoned a jury to hold an inquest on the body of the deceased that day at four o’clock. Mr. Leigh expressed an opinion to the effect that as the coroner had summoned a jury which would meet in a few hours it might appear uncourteous, under such circumstances, to proceed with the case. At the wish of Mr. Underhill, however, who appeared for the accused, and thought it might facilitate his liberation upon bail, a witness was called, who stated that his name was David Harris, and that he was at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE public house, Stafford Road, on Monday afternoon last, sitting in the yard with the deceased John Carter, the accused, and others. The deceased was fresh, and challenged Yates to fight, but he refused. Subsequently Carter challenged him again, and did so five or six times, manoeuvring his fists in Yates’s face, before he would consent to fight. Yates then said, ‘If I must fight, I must,’ and they fought for perhaps twenty minutes. At last, Carter fell backwards, and witness believed his head struck a plank; he was picked up senseless, and died the next morning. Witness and others endeavoured to persuade the men not to fight, but without effect. Carter’s wife, he stated, fetched things for her husband, brought water, and washed his face; other women were present. Upon this evidence the Bench remanded the prisoner till Friday.

Both combatants were labouring men, and the survivor, who bore marks of severe blows on his face, appeared deeply sorry for what had occurred.”

AND

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/8/1849

“On Monday last, an adjourned inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Stafford Street, on the body of John Carter, thirty-one years of age, a bricklayer, who died from injuries received in a fight with Francis Yates, at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, on the previous Monday evening. The Jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against Francis Yates, as the principal in the fight, and against George Pickett and George Thompson as seconders. The three men were then committed for trial at the next assizes.”

AND

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/3/1850

“Staffordshire Lent Assizes.....

Francis Yates, George Pickett, and George Thompson (on bail) were indicted for killing and slaying John Carter, on the 24th of July, 1849, at Wolverhampton. Mr. Kynnersley conducted the prosecution; Mr. Kettle appeared for Yates and Thompson. The prisoners pleaded guilty to the charge, by advice of counsel.

The death of Carter appeared to have arisen from a pugilistic encounter, between the deceased and Yates, who was compelled to stand in his own defence against the deceased. After several rounds had been fought, the deceased fell heavily on the ground, and shortly afterwards expired.

The learned Judge said he had looked through the depositions, from which it appeared that it was a fair and manly contest, without any resort to unfair or unlawful weapons. A breach of the law had, however, been committed, and he should therefore sentence them each to be imprisoned one week without labour. A week having elapsed since the commencement of the assizes, they were immediately discharged.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/8/1849

“On Thursday last an inquest was held at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Wolverhampton, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Michael Finnen, about thirty years of age, who was killed on Wednesday morning, by a large quantity of clay and soil (about a ton) falling upon him from the top of the side of the Stour Valley railroad, near the new road leading from Stafford Street to Cannock. The deceased was in the act of filling a waggon, when the soil fell and knocked him down. The soil was removed as quickly as possible, but it was found that he was dreadfully crushed and bruised on various parts of his body, and that his left arm was broken in two places. He expired immediately. The side from which the clay and soil fell was almost perpendicular, and the witnesses at the inquest stated that they thought it was quite safe, as the holing of it was not more than four inches, and no one was holing at the time. One of the witnesses said he could only account for its falling from the top of it being damp, and causing it to slip. The witnesses gave it as their opinion that the occurrence was quite accidental, and the jury returned a verdict to that effect.”

1851 Census

Cannock Road – ELEPHANT AND CASTLE

- [1] *John Edwin Cotterill* (33), victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Mary Cotterill* (52), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Henry Horton* (70), visitor, journeyman locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Fanny Horton* (25), general servant, born Wednesfield;
- [5] *John Edwards* (26), general servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] *Sophia Hough* (14), general servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] *Sarah Ann Cotterill* (3), visitor, born Wolverhampton:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/2/1854

“On Monday last W. H. Phillips, Esq, deputy coroner, held an inquest at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Stafford Road, on the body of Charles Webb, aged 35, who was killed by a railway locomotive passing over him, on Saturday last, near the Victoria basin, in this town. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/12/1854

“Preparations for Christmas.

Good eating has, from time immemorial, formed part and parcel of the enjoyments of Christmas; so Englishmen, who, however they may change their in other respects, are not likely to change in this. At all events, the great Metropolitan Show of cattle, in London, and the Midland Counties’ Show, in Birmingham, and last, but not least, as far as this immediate district in concerned, the usual Christmas Show at the Wolverhampton Cattle Market, on Wednesday, exhibited no sign of deterioration in this respect. For sheep and pigs the number on sale was much larger than last year.....

Two extraordinary fat porket pigs, twelve weeks old, of the Tonkey breed, bred and fed by Mr. *Cotterill*, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Stafford Road, Wolverhampton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/12/1855

“Christmas Show of Meat, &c.

The festive tide of Christmas come again, has been as plenteously marked by the various butchers in this town as on any former occasion. From all quarters – hind and fore – there have been cut stupendous pieces of good old English beef, to keep in countenance the seasonal good old English plum pudding, and from Wednesday morning to Saturday night there hung out the decorated carcasses of many a fine heifer gone to beef, and many a fine wether sheep gone to mutton, decorated with lively ribbons, and bearing something of their history in capital letters on their backs; with the admonitions, here and there, ‘Don’t Touch.’ Ere Monday had passed, however, it was ‘touch and go,’ and the butchers’ shops presented a collection of fragments, telling that, however the ‘times’ may go, folks still find their way to butchers. The following contains a list of the principal exhibitions throughout the town.....

Two porket pigs, bred and fed by Mr. *E. J. Cotterill*, of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Cannock Road.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/7/1856

“Yesterday (Tuesday), at the Town Hall, before the Mayor (E. Perry, Esq), and J. Wynn, Esq, two young men, dressed like labourers, named Roger Coffey and John Eccleshall, were charged with having committed a capital criminal assault upon a female of light character, named Mary Ann Holden. Mr. Hayes was for the prosecution.

It appeared that on Monday night the female was drinking at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE public house, Cannock Road. She went to that house with a man named Pearson about eleven o'clock, and left about a quarter to two o'clock. At that time, besides Pearson, who was with the female, there were six or seven other men in the house, amongst whom were the two prisoners, a person named Pigott, and another man whose name was at present unknown to the police. The prosecutrix, who was drunk, upon leaving the house went up Stafford Street with Pearson, on the way to her lodgings in Lichfield Street. When they got a short distance up Stafford Street the other men followed them and came close up to them. In a short time Pearson assisted the other four men, of whom the prisoners were two, to carry the woman along the road by main force from Stafford Street into a field near the Victoria basin, at the corner of the Cannock road. The offence charged was then committed by the whole of the five men in succession. Thomas Beddell, who keeps the horses for Mr. Bishton, saw the transactions in the field from a distance. The offence having been committed, the female was left in a ditch, where she was found at six o'clock in the morning. The police are making diligent search for the three missing men, who are known to them. Both prisoners were committed for trial at the ensuing assizes."

Birmingham Journal 23/7/1856

"Staffordshire Assizes.....

John Eccleshall and Roger Coffey were indicted for committing a rape on the person of Mary Ann Holden. Mr. Motteram was counsel for the prosecution, and Mr. Kettle appeared for the prisoners.

The particulars of the case were of the most revolting character. It appeared that the prosecutrix was an 'unfortunate' woman, living at Wolverhampton. On the night of the 14th of July, inst, she was at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, in that borough, in company with the prisoners and three other fellows, and sat drinking with them until a very advanced hour. She then left the tavern with one of the men, and the other four followed them. After proceeding some distance along the road, they came to a field; and there the poor girl was thrown down in a ditch, and each of the five men, in succession, committed a felonious assault upon her. Her cries attracted one or two persons to the spot, and the aid of a police-constable having been obtained, the prisoner Coffey was taken into custody. Eccleshall was subsequently apprehended.

The prosecutrix gave a very contradictory account of the affair, and was exceedingly careless in answering the various questions put to her.

For the defence, Moses Vines, a pointsman, was called, and stated that about four o'clock on the morning in question he was on duty, when he saw two men and a woman, the latter very drunk, going down the road near his box. There were two or three other men following. When they reached the stile leading into the field, two of the men got over and the woman followed them through the meadow. One of the men was carrying her bonnet and shawl. Witness afterwards saw two persons 'rolling' about together, or something of that sort, upon the grass. Heard nobody calling out for help, but heard somebody 'squeak.' When all the men had gone away witness went into the field, and found the prosecutrix lying on the ground. She laughed at him, and made no complaint whatever about any persons having ill-used her. When the policeman came up she made no charge against any one, until the officer said he should be obliged to lock her up as a common prostitute.

Other witnesses supported this statement.

The Jury returned a verdict of acquittal."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/10/1856

"In our last week's paper we briefly mentioned that a man named James Boyden had been killed at the junction of the Great Western and London and North-Western Railways, on the Cannock Road, Wolverhampton. We now supply further particulars as elicited at the inquest upon the body of the deceased, held on Thursday last, at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Stafford Street, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.

The deceased, who was about 34 years of age, was employed at the stores of the Great Western Railway Company on the Stafford Road, and on the Tuesday preceding the inquest, about half-past eight o'clock in the morning, was walking from the direction of Wolverhampton in the space between the two lines of rails. The 8.50 Great Western down train came down at the time, and when it arrived about 100 yards from the deceased the engineer sounded his whistle. The deceased jumped to his right on to the right line of rails, on which the train was coming at the rate of about fourteen miles and hour. The buffer and plank of the engine struck him on his right side, and threw him head foremost upon the up line of rails. The pointsman instantly made an alarm, and he and the waggon inspector went to the deceased, and found blood flowing from his mouth, ears, and head. He appeared to be in a dying state, and expired in about ten minutes afterwards. It was said that the engineer of the train could not stop the train before it came up to where the deceased was. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/12/1856

“On Monday last, T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Stafford Road, Wolverhampton, on the body of William Willis, a stoker, in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company, and residing at Shrewsbury.

The deceased was employed on a luggage train which arrived at the Victoria Basin from Birmingham shortly after six o'clock on Friday morning last. The train was detained at the Victoria Basin a short time, and afterwards the engine driver put on steam to go to the Stafford Road station for coals. Before, however, he arrived at the station, a signal was raised for him to stop. He did so, and the stoker got off the tender and walked forward to the pointsman. In a few minutes he called to the driver to come on; the latter pulled off the brake, and the line sloping at this point, the train ran forwards. When it arrived at the pointsman's box, the engine driver stopped it for the stoker to get on, but did not see him, it being foggy and dark, and his calls were not answered. The driver got off his engine, walked round the tender, and found the deceased lying between the line of rails behind the tender. His head lay by the side of the off rail, and was frightfully fractured. He was quite dead. The witnesses said they could not account for the deceased's being killed, unless that he slipped down and could not recover himself. The driver said Willis had no business to have got off the engine; he did so without his authority.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death. The deceased has left a widow, who will be entitled to £105 from an assurance society.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/5/1857

“On the 16th instant a horse and cart belonging to Mr. Clarke, druggist, Stafford Street, were standing at his door, whilst a person went to fetch some water for the animal. Before the water was brought the horse ran away down Stafford Street. When he arrived in front of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE public house, instead of proceeding straightforward, or turning down the middle of the Cannock Road, he continued in full speed along the footpath in front of some houses which stand considerably higher than the road, and are protected from it by a wall. When he reached the other end of the passage, where there are twenty steps leading to the proper level of the Cannock Road, and where some children were playing at the time, he jumped downwards, but cleared the heads of the children, only one of whom was hurt, and that but slightly, by the horse's foot coming into contact with its head. He then fell down; but having recovered, proceeded with the cart still behind him towards Bushbury. It appears that the person who went to fetch the water for the horse took the bridle off his head before he went.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 9/4/1860

“On Monday evening last, as William Trumper, a plate-layer, was engaged in shunting some waggons on the Great Western Railway at the Stratford Road junction, he was thrown off by the concussion of the waggons coming into contact with other waggons, fell with his head on the rails, and was killed instantaneously by one of the trucks going over and crushing the back part of his skull. At an inquest held at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Cannock Road, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Morning Advertiser 15/5/1860

“The Murder of a Woman at Wolverhampton.

An inquest was held yesterday at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Cannock Road, Wolverhampton, on the body of Elizabeth Evans, whose murder on Saturday night last, under circumstances of much brutality, by her paramour, Edward Humphreys, we reported yesterday.

The first witness examined was Harriet Davis, the wife of a man employed at the Great Western Railway station, who stated that she had been in company with the deceased the greater part of the evening. They had been in several public houses in the neighbourhood in which the tragic occurrence took place, and in one of them, the TALBOT, they left the murderer Humphreys drinking; but the deceased on going out told the landlady not to give him any more ale, which is supposed to have been the origin of the fatal affray. About ten o'clock this witness, a Mrs. Ward, and the deceased were on their way to the FLOWING FOUNTAIN INN, when Humphreys came up, and after the altercation already reported, struck the deceased two blows on the head and gave her a heavy kick on the side, after which she never spoke again.

Mrs. Ward, the other companion of the deceased, gave similar evidence.

The most serious evidence against Humphreys, however, was that of the next witness named Simms, a pointsman on the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway, who came up after the fatal blow had been given. He stated that on his remonstrating with Humphreys the latter threatened to serve him the same. He then stood silently by till

one of the women told Humphreys that he had killed the deceased, to which he answered, 'That if he had not he would pay her out when he got her to the boat.' Simms then went for the police.

After hearing his evidence the coroner adjourned the inquiry till Thursday next. Humphreys was yesterday brought before the borough justices and remanded for the same period."

[At the adjourned inquest a verdict of wilful murder was returned.]

AND

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/7/1860

"Staffordshire Summer Assizes.....

Edward Humphries, 28, boatman, was indicted for the manslaughter of Elizabeth Evans at Wolverhampton, on the 19th of May last. Mr. Scotland appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Brown was engaged for the defence.

The bill of indictment for wilful murder having been ignored by the grand jury, the prisoner by the advice of his counsel pleaded guilty to the charge of manslaughter.

It will be remembered that the prisoner was formerly a boatman in the employ of Mr. W. Bisher, carrier, &c, and cohabited with the deceased Elizabeth Evans, who accompanied him in his boat on his journeys. On the evening of the 29th May he was drinking at the FLOWING FOUNTAIN INN, Cannock Road, Wolverhampton, and the deceased spent a greater portion of the evening at the public house, but left him when he was in an advanced state of intoxication without having any quarrel, requesting the landlady not to fill the prisoner any more drink. Shortly afterwards she and two other women, while standing in Cannock Road, saw the prisoner coming near them. He threatened to use his fists, tore himself from a woman who attempted to check him, and struck his unfortunate victim two savage blows on her head, also kicking her as she was falling. She uttered a piercing shriek of 'murder,' became insensible, and died in about twenty minutes.

William Poole, an officer of the Shropshire Union Railway Company, John Perry, and Henry Evans, brother to the deceased, spoke to the prisoner's general character being good, and the latter stated that previous to the unfortunate and fatal occurrence the prisoner treated his sister with uniform kindness.

His Lordship then passed sentence. He said: Edward Humphreys, it is my painful duty to pass the sentence of the court for the crime of manslaughter, of which you have been convicted on your own confession. The crime of manslaughter varies; in some cases it approaches murder, while in others it amounts to little more than an aggravated assault, and I am sorry to say your case comes nearer to the former description than the latter. The victim of your brutal passion, Elizabeth Evans, lived with you as your wife for a period of eight or nine years; and I am bound to say, that it not only appears upon the testimony given by her brother this day, but we have it also on the depositions, that when sober you treated her with uniform kindness and affection, and never used anything like a threat towards her; but when under the influence of drink I regret to say that we have it on the depositions that you manifested a very different feeling towards her. On the 12th of May last you were drinking and so was she. You became intoxicated with the drink, and it resulted in your taking away her life unprovoked, save that she refused that which you asked her. You accompanied your blows with severe treatment, and when you knocked her down you kicked her with violence; and on being told that she was dead you said, 'If she is not I will kill her.' The difficulty with me is whether I shall be doing my duty by passing a sentence of penal servitude for a period short of your natural life; but I have considered it well, and I think I shall not be guilty of any dereliction of duty in passing a sentence lighter than that; for I trust it may be severe enough to be a warning to others that if they indulge in drink and become intoxicated it is no excuse, and that if they give way to an ungovernable passion and take away the life of a fellow creature the law will come down heavily upon them. If you had used a deadly weapon other than your fist your life would assuredly have been forfeited, and you would have descended to an ignominious grave. As it is the sentence will be severe – namely, penal servitude for eight years."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/6/1860

"On Saturday last, Mr. W. H. Phillips, deputy coroner, held an inquest at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Cannock Road, on the body of Henry Cheadle, a stock-lock maker, formerly employed by Mr. Spink, and who lived in Spink's Buildings, Stafford Street. It seemed that on Thursday morning the deceased left home at an early hour, and returned in a state of intoxication about eight o'clock, when he went to bed. About ten o'clock he got up, and was about to go downstairs, when he fell from the top to the bottom, and injured himself so severely that he died in about half an hour afterwards. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

1861 Census

Cannock Road – ELEPHANT AND CASTLE

- [1] John Edwin Cotterill (46), victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Mary Cotterill (68), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Sarah Ann Cotterill (13), niece, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Thomas Lawrence (19), brewer, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] Harriet Cadwalider (23), house servant, born Wolverhampton:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/11/1861 - Advert

“North Road, Wolverhampton. Compact Freehold Dwelling House.

Messrs. Skidmore and Langman will Sell by Auction, on Thursday, November 21, 1861, at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, corner of Cannock Road, Wolverhampton, all that Freehold Dwelling House, situate corner of Crescent Row, North Road, Wolverhampton, containing sitting room, hall, parlour, back kitchen, four bed rooms, capital cellar, hard water pump, stable, coach and cart house, piggeries, &c. Annual rental £20.

Sale at seven o'clock in the evening.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/10/1862

“Thomas Jones, alias Jordan, alias Webb, was charged with stealing a shawl, the property of Sarah Ann Cartwright, of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Cannock Road. On the previous night the prisoner went into the parlour of the inn, where the shawl was, and in a very few minutes both prisoner and shawl were missed. Information was given to Police-constable Roberts, who speedily apprehended the prisoner in Norman's pledge shop, in Horsley Fields, where he was endeavouring to get money advanced upon it. He said he had bought the shawl. The prisoner was remanded for a week.”

AND

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/10/1862

“Thomas Welch, alias Jones, alias Jordan, who has very frequently been charged with similar offences, was yesterday charged with stealing a shawl from the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Cannock Road. He went into the house, called for a pint of ale, and under pretence of writing a letter remained in the bar, from which he took a shawl, which he pledged with Mrs. Norman, in Horsley Fields. He was next charged with stealing a cloth jacket and a handkerchief, from a public house kept by Moses Scholefield, in Poulteney Street. The handkerchief only had been found pledged, with other articles, at Mr. Bowen's, Bilston. The prisoner was committed for trial.”

[At Stafford, Thomas Welch, previously convicted of felony, was charged with larceny, found guilty, and sentenced to nine months' imprisonment.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/12/1866

“The Queen's visit to Wolverhampton.....

If any one who had been absent from the town for a few days had returned on Friday he would scarcely have believed that he was in Wolverhampton, so great was the change which had been wrought in so short a space of time by the aid of decoration.....

At the top of the Cannock Road, the two inns facing each other, the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN and the JUNCTION INN, presented a very pleasing appearance, the JUNCTION INN being well surrounded by evergreens and flags of all colours, whilst a platform adjoining the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE was profusely set off with Union Jacks and Royal Standards.....

The illuminations in the evening, in honour of the Queen's visit, surpassed anything heretofore attempted in this town, as indeed was fitting, considering the extraordinary character of the event. Thousands of people were in the streets, and many of the designs and the manner in which they were carried out were generally admired. In this respect, as in the other arrangements for the day, Wolverhampton did itself signal honour. We proceed to specify some of the most noteworthy.....

The display in Stafford Street, as might be expected from the poorness of most of the inhabitants, was very meagre, the only illuminations worthy of especial notice being that at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, at the corner of the Cannock Road, and a star over the doorway of the BLACK HORSE INN, at the junction of Lichfield Street with Stafford Street. The former consisted of a large star flanked with the initials V. R., and, surrounded as it was with other adornments, it had a very pretty effect.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/3/1868 - Deaths

“On the 9th instant, *John Edwin Cotterill*, late of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Lower Stafford Street, Wolverhampton, aged 53; much respected and deeply regretted.”

Thomas Wardell = Thomas Wardle

Thomas Wardell retired to Lloyd Street.

Birmingham Daily Post 7/2/1870 - Advert

“For Sale, a 12ft 6in Bagatelle Board, nearly new, Slate Bed.

Apply to Mr. *Newton*, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Stafford Street, Wolverhampton.”

FOR SALE, a 12ft. 6in. BAGATELLE BOARD, nearly new, Slate Bed.—Apply to Mr. Newton, Elephant and Castle Inn, Stafford Street, Wolverhampton.

1871 Census

Cannock Road – ELEPHANT AND CASTLE

- [1] *Joseph Newton* (66), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Hannah Newton* (62), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Harriet Newton* (29), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Joseph C. Newton* (19), son, merchant's clerk, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *Ann Lilley* (18), domestic servant, born Brewwood, Staffordshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 22/2/1873

“At the Police Court, yesterday, *John Hodson*, bricklayer, Faulkland Street, was sent to prison for three weeks, with hard labour, for stealing four slates, value 1s 6d, the property of *Joseph Newton*, landlord of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Cannock Road.”

John Mundy = John Munday

Wolverhampton Express and Star 16/11/1875 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant.

Apply, Mrs. *Mundy*, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Cannock Road.”

WANTED, a good GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply, Mrs. Mundy, Elephant and Castle, Cannock-road.

Wolverhampton Express and Star 7/12/1875 - Death

“On the 4th instant, at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Cannock Road, *Florence Maud*, youngest daughter of *John* and *Eliza Jane Mundy*, aged 2 years and 2 months.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 8/1/1876 - Advert

“On Sale, a prime Young Brawn and Two Breeding Sows; one a very fine-bred one.

Apply, *John Mundy*, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Stafford Street.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 19/2/1876 - Advert

“To Be Sold by Private Contract, the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, top of Cannock Road, with three Freehold Cottages adjoining; large garden, stabling for six horses, brewhouse, piggeries, and large yard.

For particulars apply to Mr. *John Mundy*, on the premises.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 23/5/1876 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant.

Apply, Mrs. *Mundy*, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Cannock Road.”

WANTED, a good GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply, Mrs. Mundy, Elephant and Castle, Cannock-road.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 12/8/1876 - Advert

"Tuesday, August 22nd, 1876.

Valuable Freehold and Old-Licensed Public House, including Fixtures, Goodwill, and Possession; also Freehold Dwelling Houses, Wolverhampton.

Messrs. Walker and H. J. Lloyd are instructed to Submit for Sale by Auction, on Tuesday, the 22nd day of August, 1876, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Victoria Street, Wolverhampton, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to such conditions of sale as will be then produced.

All that important and very valuable Old-Licensed Freehold Public House and Premises, called the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, situate at the corner of the Cannock and Stafford Roads, Wolverhampton, containing Bar, Parlour, Tap Room, Kitchen, Pantry, Entrance Passage, and Staircase; Club Room, three Chambers, Store Room, excellent Cellaring, Brewhouse (fitted with copper and iron furnaces), with Malt Room over; Coal-house, open Shed, large Slaughter-house (let off at a rental of £7 10s), Stabling for six horses, with Loft over; Coach-house, Workshop, Piggeries, Side Entry, Side Gateway, productive Garden, large Yard, capital Well of hard water, and Appurtenances, now in the occupation of the Proprietor, Mr. *John Munday*; together with the Goodwill, Possession, and Fixtures, attached to the above business; and, also, all those Three adjoining Freehold Dwelling Houses, with the Entry, Outbuildings, and Appurtenances thereto, situate fronting the Cannock Road, now in the respective occupation of Smith, Topley, and White, at the gross annual rental of £32 1s 4d. The whole containing, with the site of the buildings, 1,349 square yards of land or thereabouts.

The above property presents an excellent opportunity to parties desirous of obtaining a good investment, or an old and well-established business which is capable of considerable extension.

For further particulars, apply to Messrs. Walker and H. J. Lloyd, Auctioneers and Surveyors, 62, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton."

Wolverhampton Express and Star 31/8/1876 - Advert

"Wolverhampton. To be Sold, the Full-licensed Public House, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, situate at the junction leading to Stafford and Cannock. The premises are freehold and free from chief, which, with the Brewhouse, Yard, Piggeries, Stabling for six horses, Coach-house, Outbuildings, and Garden, containing nearly half an acre of land, together with Three Freehold Cottages, will be sold cheap. Immediate possession can be had if required.

For particulars, apply to *J. Mundy*, on the premises."

Wolverhampton Express and Star 23/10/1876 - Advert

"For Sale, that Freehold Property, the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE Public House, with the three adjoining Dwelling Houses, Stabling, Piggeries, Garden, Coalyard, Slaughterhouse, situate top of Cannock Road, Stafford Street.

For particulars, apply to Mr. *John Mundy*."

Wolverhampton Express and Star 27/3/1877 - Advert

"For Sale, Horse, with Harness, Waggonette (to carry nine), with cushions, lamps, &c, complete; also, Spring Cart, well-bred Heifer, with calf two days old, and one Cow.

Mr. *Mundy*, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Cannock Road."

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/11/1878

"An hour after midnight on Sunday fire was found at destructive work under the sitting-room floor of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Cannock Road. Without loss of time, the fire brigade were on the spot, and the flames quickly extinguished. It was found that cinders had fallen through from the back of the grate, the fire resulting being further fed by the escape from a broken gas pipe."

Wolverhampton Express and Star 4/7/1879 - Advert

"For Sale, strong Coal Cart, nearly new; also, Chaff Engine. ELEPHANT AND CASTLE Wharf, Stafford Street."

FOR Sale, strong Coal Cart, nearly new; also, Chaff Engine
Elephant and Castle Wharf, Stafford-street.

Agnes Bradhurst = Agnes Brodhurst

Wolverhampton Express and Star 3/7/1880 - Advert

“Whisky! Whisky! Whisky!

Specialty in Old Malt. For an exceptionally pure, wholesome, and safe stimulant try the Re-Distilled, the Cream of Irish Whiskies, 3s 6d per bottle.

Such is the surpassing purity and excellence of this Spirit that it is allowed on all hands to be the best value in the market, being equal to the finest French Brandy.

Please note that corks and capsules are branded ‘Re-Distilled.’

Analyst’s Opinion: Chemical Agricultural Society of Ulster, Belfast, November 1879.

I have made a Chemical Examination of a sample of the Re-distilled Whisky, and find it to be to be a very Superior Old Malt Whisky, of the highest purity, being distinguished by its perfect freedom from Fusel Oils or other deleterious in ingredients.

Jno. F. Hodges, MD, FIC, Public Analyst for the Borough of Belfast, and the Counties Antrim, Tyrone, Donegal, &c. To be had in Bottle and on Draught at the following Houses in Wolverhampton.....

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, corner of Cannock Road.

And Wholesale from T. Leary and Sons (sole consignees for the Midland Counties), Market Place, Willenhall.”

1881 Census

Cannock Road – ELEPHANT AND CASTLE

- [1] Agnes Bradhurst (38), unmarried, spirit merchant, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Bradhurst (7), niece, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Agnes Bradhurst (4), niece, born Bloxwich;
- [4] John Lacy (27), boarder, bar manager, born Ireland;
- [5] John Sinforth (16), boarder, bar manager, born Willenhall;
- [6] Teresa Clarke (18), boarder, domestic servant, born Wolverhampton:

Agnes Bradhurst married Patrick O’Kane in the 2nd quarter of 1883.

Birmingham Daily Post 29/10/1890

“Thomas Lackey (57), nailcutter, of no fixed address, was charged, at the Police Court, yesterday, with breaking two panes of glass, value £2, at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Cannock Road. Mr. Willcock prosecuted.

It was stated that the prisoner went into the public house and offered sporting tips for sale. Ultimately he became abusive, and had to be ejected, whereupon he smashed the panes of glass with his stick.

He was fined £2 and costs, and was also ordered to pay £2 damage, or one month’s imprisonment.”

1891 Census

1, Cannock Road

- [1] Patrick O’Kane (31), licensed victualler, born Owill, County Derry, Ireland;
- [2] Agnes O’Kane (47), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Mary A. Broadhurst (18), niece, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Bernard K. Broadhurst (15), nephew, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Mary B. Terry (10), niece, born Walsall;
- [6] Daniel McNichol (20), barman, born Ireland;
- [7] John King (17), barman, born Ireland;
- [8] Clara Howel (24), domestic servant, born Bilston;
- [9] Mary Tearse (12), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/7/1891

“At the Police Court, yesterday, Noah Lee, furniture-dealer, of Stafford Street, appeared to a charge of assaulting Hugh McGowan, gas-stoker, Herbert Street. Mr. R. A. Willcock prosecuted, and Mr. A. Tarton defended.

For the complainant, it was stated that he went into the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Stafford Street, on the 14th inst, and there met the defendant, who accused him of insulting his wife. The complainant denied the charge, but the defendant struck him several times, and both men were turned into the street, where the defendant continued the assault. The complainant was struck several times whilst he lay on the ground, two of his teeth were knocked out, and he was so severely injured about the body that he vomited blood for four days.

For the defence it was contended that there had been a stand-up fight, and the complainant got the worst of the encounter. The Stipendiary characterised the assault as a very cowardly one, and fined the defendant £10 and the costs, or two months' imprisonment in default.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/4/1894

“At the Guildhall, on Monday, Mr. H. H. Jackson applied for a temporary authority of the license to the SPORTSMAN, from *Patrick O’Kane* to John Hurley. The Chief Constable asked for the outgoing tenant to be put in the box. Mr. *O’Kane* was sworn, and in reply to Mr. Taylor said he kept the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Wolverhampton, and had done so for ten or eleven years. He believed he held two other licenses in Wolverhampton.....

The Bench, after consideration in private, adjourned the application till the special transfer day, on April 27th, the house to be closed in the meantime.”

Patrick O’Kane – see also SPORTSMAN, Stafford Street, Walsall; FOUR ASHES, Wolverhampton; and HEART OF OAK, Wolverhampton.

John Steward, beer retailer, 1, Stafford Road. [1896]

Wolverhampton Express and Star 16/11/1898

“At the Wolverhampton Police Court, this (Wednesday) morning, before Mr. N. C. A. Neville (Stipendiary), *James Richards*, landlord of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Cannock Road, Wolverhampton, was charged with keeping open during prohibited hours his licensed premises; selling intoxicating liquors to Police-constables Deacon and Farquah during prohibited hours; Walter Edwards, Powell Street, Cannock Road; Joseph Roberts, 45, Cobden Lane; John Jones, 49, High Street, West Bromwich; Albert Griffiths, 394, New Hampton Road; Samuel Holmes, Dunstall Road; James Doggitt, 76, Molineux Street; William Freeford, 55, Poole Street; George Shelley, 30, Westbury Street; Charles Ryman, Austin Street; Robert Deacon, Dawson Street; John Joseph Farquah, St. John’s Square; were charged with being on the licensed premises during prohibited hours.

Deacon and Farquah were also charged with neglect of duty under the Wolverhampton Improvement Act whilst being police-constables in the borough of Wolverhampton.

Captain Burnett conducted the prosecution. Mr. R. A. Willcock appeared for *Richards*, Mr. R. E. C. Plumtre (instructed by Mr. T. Dallow) appeared for Police-constables Deacon and Farquah, and Mr. E. B. Thorneycroft for Detective Ryman.

The Chief constable in opening the case said that on the 6th of the present month Messrs. Barnum and Bailey’s show paid a visit to Wolverhampton. Application was made personally to him (Captain Burnett) for the services of four constables to preserve order, and see that everything went right whilst the trucks were being unloaded for the show. Sergeants Merry and Bates, and Police-constables Deacon and Farquah were detailed for that special duty. The sergeants posted the men in their allotted positions, and shortly after found that these men were not there. Inspector Munn and Sergeant Harvey found lights in the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE at 3.55 in the morning, and on looking into the house mentioned they found the defendants drinking. The landlord was present, and these men could not to be said be bona fide travellers. Several of the other defendants were in railway uniform, and it was with very great regret that he had to bring the charge against two of his own constables. If the case was proved, as he had no doubt it would be, he should ask the Stipendiary to exercise the power given to him and dismiss the constables from the force.

Inspector Alfred Munn stated that on the early morning of the 6th inst he was on duty in Lower Stafford Street, near the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN. He noticed that the bar was lighted up, and as he was going towards the house he saw several men in uniform. The uniforms looked like those of railway men. He went and looked through the window, and saw three men in uniform, and then instructed Sergeant Harvey to knock the door. The landlord opened the door, attired in his shirt and trousers, and witness asked him if he had an extension of hours. The landlord replied

that he had not, and witness informed him that he should have to see who was inside the house. Witness went inside and found both the constables in full uniform. Some of the glasses contained ale, and one of them was spirit glass. Witness then took the names and addresses of the men and spoke to the landlord with respect to the matter. The latter replied, 'Your officers came and called me up, and told me that they were Barnum and Bailey's people; that they were travellers, and it would be all right.' Witness replied, 'You see, with one exception, they all come from the town.' Witness spoke to the constables, and Deacon said, 'I thought I had done right.'

Superintendent Elliot gave evidence with respect to the orders given to the police-constables as to going into public houses in uniform. In June, 1891, the Chief Constable went on parade and told the men that unless it was in a very exceptional case they were not to take drink on licensed premises in uniform whether on duty or off. There was plenty of time for them to have refreshment after they had finished duty, and he did not object to their visiting a respectable house. Witness was certain that the instructions were with respect to being on licensed premises.

Mr. Willcock, for the landlord of the public house, said he thought he was acting in a straight-forward manner, under the direction of two constables.

Mr. Thorneycroft, on behalf of Ryman, said he had no idea that he was doing wrong. He had been on duty for a long time, and had been without refreshments for a long period. A man who he thought was connected with the show asked his client to have some refreshment, and the latter accepted the invitation. He had not the slightest idea he was doing wrong. For nineteen years he had been in his position as a railway detective, and there had never been any complaint against him before.

Mr. Plumptre, in defence of the policemen, said that Barnum and Bailey's show appeared to have been responsible for upsetting the people of Wolverhampton, and it appeared to have been the cause of a railway detective, policemen, and other railway men going wrong. He asked his Worship to take into consideration the fact that Deacon had been in the force for nearly twenty years, and if the Stipendiary dismissed them from the force it would mean losing their pensions.

The Stipendiary said that this was one of the most extraordinary cases he had had before him for a long time. The fault entirely lay with the two constables, and it was most astonishing that two men who had been in the force for so long a time, and had hitherto conducted themselves well, should be guilty of such conduct. They knew they were doing wrong, and were fully aware that they would be getting themselves into trouble and also the landlord. The Chief Constable had suggested to him (Mr. Neville) that he could take one of three alternatives by dismissing them from the force. Although that would be a very severe punishment he did not think it would be too great. He had no doubt that the matter would come before the Watch Committee of the Town Council, and they would deal with it in the proper manner.

For each offence against the policemen they would each be fined 40s and costs, or one month's imprisonment. *Richards*, the landlord of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, would be fined 20s and costs for supplying ale to the police constables, and the other charge would be dismissed on payment of costs. The charges against the other defendants were also dismissed on payment of costs, with the exception of Edwards and Roberts, who were fined 5s and costs each or fourteen days' imprisonment. The total of the fines for the policemen amounted to £4 18s. The total charges of all the defendants amounted to £14 9s 9d."

Wolverhampton Express and Star 6/12/1898

"The Watch Committee and the Two Delinquent Constables.....

The two constables in question, after completing their ordinary day duty of eight hours, were given special all-night duty at the Great Western goods siding in Beaumont Street, during the unloading of the vans in connection with Messrs. Barnum and Bailey's great show, on the occasion of its recent visit to the town. Whilst so engaged, at about three o'clock on the Sunday morning, they were approached by the ganger in charge of the Great Western employees, who, on the plea that they had been engaged during the night in the arduous occupation of unloading the vans, induced the two constables to call up the landlord of a neighbouring licensed house (the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE) and authorise him to supply the men with the refreshment of which they stood in need. This, in itself, was an offence against the law with respect to licensed houses, and the policemen further aggravated the matter by accompanying the railway men into the house and partaking of refreshment with them, in the shape of bread and cheese and beer. Their excuse was that having been on duty so many hours, they were as much in need of refreshment as the others. But they well knew, as old and experienced officers, that they were acting in defiance of the regulation which prohibits constables in uniform entering licensed houses for any purpose than the strict execution of their duty....."

[The Watch Committee, reduced their ranks to the lowest possible; pay of Deacon (or Deakin) from 32s 6d per week to 25s and Farquah from 27s to 25s; their pensions were also affected.]

1901 Census

1, Cannock Road

[1] *John King* (28), victualler's manager, born Belfast;

[2] *Francis Keene* (19), barman, born Birmingham:

Demolished

Rebuilt c.1905.

Black Country Bugle 28/9/2022

Article by Steve James

".....The [new] building was designed by local Walsall architects J. F. Hickman and H. E. Farmer who were best known for their theatre and cinema designs. It was constructed by another local company, Speake and Sons, of Wolverhampton. Its frontage, with green and white faience brickwork was made by Gibbs and Canning of Tamworth, and was instantly recognisable, including gold lettering and a statuette of an elephant with a castle on its back."

Indenture 28/10/1909

"All that public house and premises called the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE situate at the corner of the Stafford and Cannock Roads in Wolverhampton aforesaid. Together with the slaughter-house adjoining thereto and the stabling coach-house workshop piggeries and entries and the garden and yard containing in the whole an area of 1,348 square yards....."

1911 Census

Lower Stafford Street – ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN

[1] *Harry Banks* (31), hotel manager, born Walsall;

[2] *Sarah Banks* (24), wife, married 4 years, born Walsall;

[3] *Gladys Banks* (18 months), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *Charles Hinson* (60), boarder, bricklayer, born Bourne, Lincolnshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/5/1912

"John Carter, Bone Mill Lane, and George Henry Fowler, Coven Street, were charged with stealing, and *Harry Banks*, of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Lower Stafford Street, was charged with receiving with a guilty knowledge several cases of brandy, whisky, and gin, belonging to the Great Western Railway Company. An application was made for an adjournment to enable some of the missing goods to be traced. It was granted, and the defendants were allowed bail."

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/5/1912

"John Carter, of Bone Mill Lane; George Henry Fowler, of Coven Street; and Thomas Heritage, Smestow Street, were charged on remand with stealing several cases of brandy, whisky and gin, the property of the Great Western Railway Company; and *Harry Banks*, of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Lower Stafford Street, was charged with receiving some of the same with a guilty knowledge. Heritage was formerly a shunter in the employ of the railway company. Goods were missed after being checked, and some of the stolen spirits were found at *Banks's* house. Carter said Heritage knew all about the affair.

The defendants were committed for trial at the Borough Quarter Sessions, and allowed bail."

[At the Sessions John Carter was charged with stealing and receiving 4 cases of White Horse whisky, 3 cases of Holland's gin, and 2 cases of Three Star Martell's brandy. He was found guilty of larceny, and was given six months' hard labour. George Henry Fowler was found not guilty; Thomas Heritage, found guilty of larceny, received nine months' hard labour; and *Harry Banks*, found guilty of receiving, was given nine months' hard labour.]

Wolverhampton Express and Star 3/10/1912 - Letters to the Editor

"Sir, I wish to call the attention of the Lighting Committee of our Town Council to two very badly lighted thoroughfares in Wolverhampton. One is the canal bridge, Stafford Road, close to the entrance to Dunstall Park, and the other by the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Stafford Street. Both these places are absolutely dangerous at night, and I feel sure if some members of the Lighting Committee will just have a look for themselves at night they will at once admit the danger. Yours faithfully, L. C."

Thomas Harry Lee = Thomas Harry Lees

1939 Register

1, Stafford Road

[1] George E. Giles, date of birth 22/7/1886, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Beatrice M. Giles, dob 30/7/1886, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Elsie E. (Giles) Tattersall, dob 11/5/1906, barmaid, single:

Doris May Davies (1904-1979) was the daughter of George Edward Giles.

She married Benjamin Davies at Wolverhampton in the 4th quarter of 1925.

Benjamin Davies was goalkeeper for Crewe Alexandra, Port Vale and Cradley Heath.

1958 Probate

“Benjamin Davies of ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Stafford Street, Wolverhampton, died 29 December 1957 at New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton. Administration Birmingham 15 August to Doris May Davies, widow. Effects £61 16s 6d.”

Doris May Davies was remembered as having blonde hair, being partly blind and playing the piano in the bar.

Reginald Mincher was married to Gladys.

Their children remember the pub as being a bit decrepit and old fashioned when they moved in.

Alterations were approved in 1976.

This included knocking through the downstairs so that there was a pool room and open bar rather than the original vaults and smoke rooms.

Sandwell Evening Mail 14/4/1990

“Down Your Local.

The ELEPHANT AND CASTLE in Stafford Street, Wolverhampton, is a small, friendly local on the ring road just outside the town centre. The Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries know exactly how old it is, because they built it themselves just after the turn of the century. The 1,300 sq yd freehold site cost them £3,000 in 1909. In the past the land consisted of three houses, a slaughterhouse, stabling, coach house workshop, piggery, and five cottages. When the brewery purchased the site, there were only the three houses, the workshop and some shedding left. They knocked down the houses and built the pub from scratch in 1909, and have been the proud sole owners ever since. The pub's future has been question several times through proposed road schemes, although that seems to have subsided at the moment. The building retains its old style externally, but was modernised inside in 1979. It's an unusual shape with lots of angles, and all the customers will tell you how it once had three rooms, all heaving with custom – and reminisce about the original oven that stood in the corner of the bar and heated the room wonderfully. Nowadays there is one main seating bar lounge, warmed by central heating, and a pool room. The pub is like a dairy and mine hosts, *Stephen* and Sue *Hoare*, gave it another lick of paint a few weeks' ago. There are copper foil pictures on the wall, but the talking point among the regulars is the stained glass windows – mainly because nobody can fathom out what they depict! There are lovely stained glass pictures at the top of each of the five big windows in the room. Sue said, 'Unfortunately, nobody can figure out what they are! Personally I think they are owls, people have different ideas and it's a topic of conversation.'

Sue and *Stephen* have been running the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE since last May. *Stephen* is the tenant, and previously the couple were in partnership in a Birmingham pub, the Witton Arms, for 12 months. And before that *Stephen* was a maintenance worker for the West Midlands Passenger Transport Executive. They decided to try their hand in the pub business because Sue had been a barmaid for 16 years and always wanted her own place. They have two sons, Craig, aged 11, and ten-year-old Scott.

The Banks's pub serves its traditional ales, lagers, and six different whiskies. Food is the basic scampi and chip variety available lunch times, Monday to Saturday. The pub is open all day, Friday, Saturday and Monday from 11.30am-11pm.

Custom is a mix of old and young, mostly workers, and with a passing trade of outside visitors, and is mainly a weekend venue. If you are not busy watching the two domino teams playing Mondays and Tuesdays, you can get to know some of the pub's jolly characters. There's Terry Guy, an ex-paratrooper, who can sink quite a few, said

Stephen – yet no-one has ever seen him drunk! He's been coming in every dinner time for about ten years now. There's Noel Flanagan, a regular for donkey's years, a genial Irishman with a wealth of tales. Also Joe Morgan, one of the older drinkers, and a bunch of TV engineers from the local Granada services shop, who come in at lunchtime. All in all 'a good crowd.'

Customers are also quick to dip into their pockets to help a worthy cause. They have just done some fund raising for a ventilator for one of the lads who suffers from asthma. They had a whip round and entertainment night and raised £90 towards the £115 cost of the equipment. *Stephen* said, 'He spends so much time in hospital because he can't breathe properly, so the ventilator will help him a lot.' Regulars also support the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the local blind. Sue said, 'It's a nice pub with a nice crowd.'

Older regulars will probably remember Albert [sic] and *Doris Davis* who had the pub from 1941. Albert [sic] used to play in goal for Port Vale before the war and after he died in 1957 *Doris* carried on as Manager Ref until she retired in 1974, aged 70. She was very well known in the community."

London Gazette 14/8/2000

"*Susan Ann Baggott* (described in the Bankruptcy Order as *Susan Baggott*), of 16 Simpson Road, Low Hill, lately of and trading as a Publican at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE Public House, Lower Stafford Street, both in Wolverhampton, West Midlands.

Court – Wolverhampton.

Date of Bankruptcy Order – 26th June 2000."

It closed in 2000.

Express and Star 3/2/2001

"Fire fighters searched a smoke-filled derelict Wolverhampton pub for squatters after it was set alight. They were called out to the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE pub on the junction of Cannock Road and Stafford Road at 8.30 last night. No one was injured but fire fighters had to search the premises after it became apparent that people were using the disused pub to squat in. Leading fire fighter Terry Riley said fires in derelict buildings being used by people sleeping rough were starting to become a problem. 'The whole building gets very smoke logged so we have to commit large groups of fire fighters to search the premises,' he said. 'It is a problem we are beginning to have with a lot of empty premises in Wolverhampton.'

The crews tackled a small fire on the ground floor and one on the first floor. Mr. Riley said the fire was complicated by the fact the building was boarded up. He added the fire was being treated as suspicious."

Beerwolf (Spring 2001) - Article by Jim Laws

"The boarded-up ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, on the junction of Stafford Street and Cannock Road suffered a fire in early February. The pub closed several months ago and *Beerwolf* feels that pub owners Avebury Taverns ought to make a decision on its future before any further vandalism takes place.

There has been a pub on the site since 1834, with the present building shown on a map of 1871. At that time it boasted its own brew house and was in the ownership of 'Manchester Brewery'.

The exterior of the pub features excellent tiling and gold lettering together with a wonderful statuette of an elephant with a castle on its back. The top floor which was added in 1901 features an impressive black and white wooden façade. These are features which CAMRA would most definitely like to see retained. Internally, the facilities have been knocked through into one uninspiring room and a modern extension, although an enterprising licensee/designer/pub company could no doubt do a good restoration job.

Beerwolf hopes the ELEPHANT has a future as a real ale outlet, and as the landmark it has been for many many years. We await developments with considerable interest."

It was demolished overnight on 4th March 2001, without planning permission.

Black Country Bugle 28/9/2022

Article by Steve James

".....The destruction of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE was said to have caused greater public outrage amongst the people of Wolverhampton than any other recent event involving the redevelopment or development of the city."

Express & Star 27/9/2007

“A piece of Wolverhampton’s heritage was thought lost forever when the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE pub was demolished almost seven years ago. Regulars demanded to know what had happened to the iconic elephant statue which greeted them as they went in when their old boozer was demolished almost overnight. But as plans are being considered for a new statue at the nearby Peel Retail Park, a Bushbury man has revealed that he rescued the old one from the side of the road. Winston Aplin spotted a beam of oak flytipped next to the Jungle scrapyard in Bilston in 2001. His find came soon after the pub had been demolished and the site cleared. As the father of two and a friend started to retrieve the beam for use in his garden in Beechwood Avenue, Winston spotted something strange. Winston, who responded to an appeal for information about the original in the *Express & Star*, said, ‘I had heard that stuff from the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE had just been flytipped, and I recognised the statue. Everyone round here would know it....’”

Express & Star 24/10/2007

“A man who aims to restore a unique piece of Wolverhampton’s heritage is appealing for photographs to help him make an accurate reproduction. The iconic elephant statue, which greeted drinkers at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE pub until it was demolished almost seven years ago, was thought lost forever. But after an appeal in the *Express & Star* by former pub regulars to discover what had happened to the statue the man who found it dumped near a scrapyard in Bilston came forward. And now Winston Aplin, from Bushbury, has asked his cousin to bring the concrete statue back to its former glory. The battered old blue and red statue was given a home in 41-year-old Mr Aplin’s garden, in Beechwood Avenue, after he discovered it in 2001. A storm of protest met the demolition of the pub, which stood on the corner of Cannock Road and Stafford Street. Steve Swift, of Coven Body Repairs, is taking on the jumbo challenge but is appealing for help from the public to ensure the job is done to the highest standard. He said, ‘I want to ask anyone who has a photograph of the elephant to let me see it so I can reproduce it faithfully. If I could see a picture of the elephant as it was originally, that would make my job much easier. As it stands, I would just be guessing. At the moment, it has three and a half legs. The trunk and tusks are missing, plus the castle that was on its back.’

He said the biggest part of the job would be drilling into the concrete and inserting steel rods to reinforce it. The legs and other missing parts will be reconstructed and sculpting work undertaken. It is a bit different to the kind of restoration work usually carried out by the 60-year-old, who works mainly with classic cars and antique furniture.”

Express & Star 11/3/2008

“The restored statue from Wolverhampton’s famous ELEPHANT AND CASTLE pub should be installed above the doorway of Beatties to reclaim a prominent position in the city. Wolverhampton Civic Society chairman Richard Rhodes says the statue would have ‘pride of place’ looking towards the landmark of PRINCE ALBERT in Queen Square. It would be even more appropriate, he says, as it would stand next to the 12 elephants engraved into the department store building, on the corner of Victoria Street and Darlington Street, in the early 1930s. The statue graced the side of the Stafford Street pub which was controversially knocked down overnight in 2001. Bushbury man Winston Aplin rescued it from a pile of fly-tipped rubbish. His cousin Steve Swift, of Coven Body Repairs, restored it.”

Express & Star 3/7/2008

“A landmark elephant statue rescued from a former Wolverhampton pub is still under lock and key instead of going on display in the city due to a family feud. Steve Swift, boss of Coven Body Repairs, today revealed how he is refusing to let the statue he spent 180 hours restoring to its former glory be sold until he is paid for his time and labour. He maintained he had originally agreed to do the job for free because the statue’s owner, his cousin Winston Aplin, had said it would be sold in aid of charity. But in April this year Mr. Aplin, aged 41, told the *Express & Star* he would sell the statue for a profit, prompting Mr. Swift to cover the elephant with a tarpaulin until he receives a cut he can give to a worthy cause.....”

Express & Star 29/8/2009

“A statue from an historic Wolverhampton pub is being kept under lock and key more than a year after it was restored to its former glory. The statue from the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE pub was restored after being found in a heap of fly-tipped rubbish. The finder, Winston Aplin, has been unable to find a buyer prepared to keep it and display it in Wolverhampton.....”

The Blackcountryman (Summer 2018)

“As part of its ambitious Forging Ahead development, Black Country Living Museum will be creating a new town centre, telling the story of the Black Country from the 1940s to the 1960s.....

Most recently we have asked for memories of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, the grand Edwardian pub that stood on the corner of Stafford Street and Cannock Road, in Wolverhampton. There had been a pub on that corner since at least 1834, when *Samuel Davis*, maltster and retail brewer, was licensee. Situated on a main route into town, it must have been a popular coaching inn, and by 1905 its owners, Manchester Brewery Co. (at this point under the chairmanship of John Henry Davies, who also owned the newly-christened Manchester United Football Club), decided to demolish and rebuild it as a magnificent landmark for the town. The faience frontage (constructed by the famous Tamworth firm Gibbs & Canning) and elephant statue made the pub instantly recognisable.

In 1907 Manchester Brewery was taken over by North Worcestershire Breweries, who were in turn acquired by Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries in 1910, making it part of the Banks's estate. Its clientele was diverse. Wolverhampton was home to many thousands of Irish immigrants during the nineteenth century; many living in the Stafford Street area and this was reflected by an Irish-born publican at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE in 1891. After World War Two, as firms struggled to find the labour they needed, the Irish again formed the largest group of incomers, but they weren't the only ones; colonial and Commonwealth citizens from India, Pakistan and the Caribbean also heeded the call for workers, and drinkers from all of these nations could be found in the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE. The pub's sad decline in later years was capped by its unexpected demolition in 2001, shortly before it could be considered for listing.

Upon completion in 2022, visitors will be able to experience life in the post-war by having a pint in this famous pub.”

Express & Star 27/12/2018

“The Black Country Living Museum will be ‘Forging Ahead’ as plans for its new 1940s-1960s town were given the go-ahead. The popular museum submitted a planning application to Dudley Council for its ambitious £23m Forging Ahead project. The new town will include 25 buildings and structures including Ambrose of Kingswinford Ice Cream Dairy, Stanton's Music Shop in Dudley and Wolverhampton's ELEPHANT AND CASTLE public house. The museum has received support from numerous organisations to date including a pledge from the Heritage Lottery Fund of £9.8m. Last month, the Black Country Museum revealed artists' impressions of how the new town would look.

Museum director Andrew Lovett previously said, ‘This is an incredibly ambitious, once-in-a-lifetime project. Our research so far has helped us uncover incredible stories that will help us piece together the revolutionary time that was the ‘40s-60s.

Dudley Council approved the plans, subject to conditions.”

Express & Star 12/9/2021

“A landmark pub which has vanished from its original spot is springing up again at the Black Country Living Museum. The ELEPHANT AND CASTLE pub is the first part of the museum's Forging Ahead project, a 1940s to 1960s town at the attraction in Dudley. Built in 1905, the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE was once a grand Edwardian pub, and was seen as a major landmark for those coming into Wolverhampton. Standing on the corner of Stafford Street and Cannock Road, the pub was popular among the migrant community in the city, but fell into disrepair and was demolished in 2001. The work to recreate the pub is part of the museum's plan to create a world-class heritage attraction in the heart of the Black Country, telling a unique story to around 500,000 visitors each year by 2026. The museum said it presents a once in a lifetime opportunity to save Black Country heritage, inspire people with stories that would otherwise be at risk of being lost, and transform the local community.

Tim Darrall is site supervisor for the brickworks company, AFB Ltd, the team working to build the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, and laid the first brick of the project. Mr Darrall said the build was a dream for him, having been a regular at the pub in the 1980s. He said, ‘It's a great honour to be working on the Black Country Living Museum's Forging Ahead project. I was so pleased when I heard that I would be working on the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, a pub that I used to frequent and it is a much missed landmark. Back in 2001, when it was knocked down, I would have never thought that I'd be involved in its recreation, let alone be one of the people to lay the first bricks and I can't wait to have my first pint in the finished build.’

John Hughes, project lead for Forging Ahead at the Black Country Living Museum, said, ‘We are excited to see The ELEPHANT AND CASTLE start to take form as it will be the first of our historic buildings to open in the 1940s-60s town.’”

Express & Star 27/4/2022

“A once popular Wolverhampton pub is gradually coming to life after being rebuilt at the Black Country Living Museum. Now the museum’s Collections Team have put out the request for bar items from the 1960s to help fully furnish the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE pub, a former grand Edwardian pub which stood on the corner of Stafford Street and Cannock Road in Wolverhampton. The pub suffered a decline over the years and was unexpectedly demolished in 2001, shortly before it could be considered for listing, but is being brought back to life as part of the museum’s 1940s to 1960s Forging Ahead development. The Museum’s Collections Team said it is interested in bar items from the 1960s specifically, such as wooden tables and dark mahogany spindle back chairs, beer, wines and spirits bottles and promotional glasses. To help set dress the walls and tables; it is also looking for promotional materials such as wall plaques, mirrors, coasters and, in particular, items that were marketed to women such as Babycham, Cherry B and Golden Godwin. Collections manager Chloe Taylor said the rebuild of the pub had been going well, with the aim of opening in the summer, and spoke about the plans for keeping it authentic.....

The exterior of the pub has nearly been completed, with just some green tiling on the outside and the famous landmark Elephant statue set to be added to the outside after being reproduced by A Studio.....”

Express & Star 15/8/2022

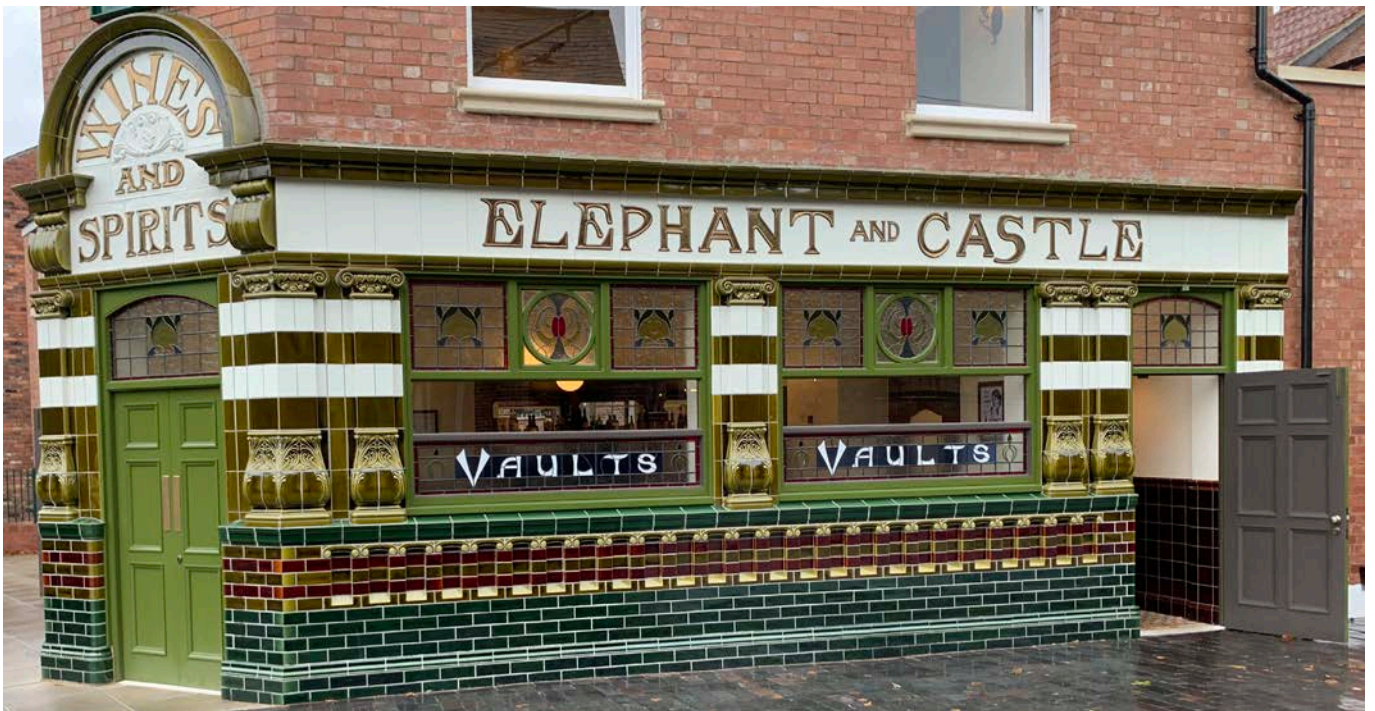
“A new pub attraction has brought a taste of the 1960s to the modern era. The ELEPHANT AND CASTLE is the first part of the brand-new multi-million-pound Forging Ahead development at the Black Country Museum and recreates the classic public house that originally stood in Wolverhampton. The pub has been fitted with rooms from the era, such as a smoking room and an upstairs saloon bar, as well as colouring on the wall to replicate the staining from cigarettes and authentic beer mats and towels. The Black Country Museum has worked to recreate the pub as it would have appeared in 1960, with a lot of work going into collecting memories and objects from families and people linked to the original pub. Some of those people were present at a special launch event where they enjoyed a few pints and a fish and chip lunch in the downstairs bar, including the former landlord *John Purchase*. He had the honour of pulling the first pint and enjoyed a pint with his daughter Lisa Newell, admitting that he was very emotional to see the pub again. He said, ‘It’s like seeing an old friend for me and it’s really made my day being here, so I know it will make a lot of people’s days when they see this place. I thought we wouldn’t see it again, but the Black Country Museum have done a great job with putting it together.’

Lisa Newell said, ‘We donated some Babycham glasses and we’ve also had some original brasses which we’ve made a donation of to here. I think this place being here will really bring back the memories of it as I remember when it was demolished and there were students from the university, digging through the rubble to find something to salvage as they thought they’d lost it forever. I must admit I felt very emotional when I turned the corner and saw it as it felt like stepping back in time as it was such an iconic place.’

Dr. Simon Briercliffe had worked for six years from inception to creation as research lead to get the pub built and fitted out with the right authentic touches. He said, ‘It’s my job to get it to be as historically accurate as possible while bearing in mind that it’s still going to be a functional pub, so it has an accessible lift for example. We spent a long time interviewing people, customers, staff and other people to get the right feel, and worked to ensure we had everything we needed, such as Babycham bottles, the Irish whiskies and glasses from the era. What we want is to create a feel that this was a family pub and part of a close knit community, so it will feel like a place where people can come and enjoy themselves.’

Andrew Lovett, BCLM chief executive, said, ‘The ELEPHANT AND CASTLE is the first building where we will step into living memory, which is the important part of our Forging Ahead development, with another 26 buildings and features still to come over the next year. We hope that visitors will come down to what we feel will become the new icon of the museum.’

The ELEPHANT AND CASTLE officially opens tomorrow.”



ON SALE, a prime Young **BRAWN** and Two Breeding **SOWS**; one a very fine-bred one.—Apply, John Mundy, Elephant and Castle, Stafford-street.

TUESDAY, August 22nd, 1876.—Valuable **FREEHOLD** and **OLD-LICENSED PUBLIC HOUSE**, including **FIXTURES**, **GOODWILL**, and **POSSESSION**; also **FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSES**, Wolverhampton.

MESSRS. WALKER and H. J. LLOYD are instructed to **SUBMIT for SALE by AUCTION**, on **TUESDAY**, the 22nd day of August, 1876, at the Star and Garter Hotel, Victoria Street, Wolverhampton, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to such conditions of sale as will be then produced—all that important and very valuable **OLD-LICENSED FREEHOLD PUBLIC-HOUSE and PREMISES**, called the "**ELEPHANT AND CASTLE**," situate at the corner of the Cannock and Stafford Roads, Wolverhampton, containing Bar, Parlour, Tap Room, Kitchen, Pantry, Entrance Passage, and Staircase; Club Room, three Chambers, Store Room, excellent Cellaring, Brewhouse (fitted with copper and iron furnaces), with Malt Room over; Coal-house, open Shed, large Slaughter-house (let off at a rental of £7 10s.), stabling for six horses, with Loft over; Coach-house, Workshop, Piggeries, Side Entry, Side Gateway, productive Garden, large Yard, capital Well of hard water, and Appurtenances, now in the occupation of the Proprietor, Mr. John Mundy; together with the **GOODWILL, POSSESSION, and FIXTURES**, attached to the above business; and, also, all those Three adjoining **FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSES**, with the Entry, Outbuildings, and Appurtenances thereto, situate fronting the Cannock Road, now in the respective occupation of Smith, Topley, and White, at the gross annual rental of £22 1s. 4d. The whole containing, with the site of the buildings, 1,349 square yards of land or thereabouts.

The above property presents an excellent opportunity to parties desirous of obtaining a good investment, or an old and well-established business which is capable of considerable extension.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. Walker and H. J. Lloyd, Auctioneers and Surveyors, 62, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton.

TO BE SOLD by Private Contract, the **ELEPHANT AND CASTLE**, top of Cannock-road, with three Freehold Cottages adjoining; large garden, stabling for six horses, brewhouse, piggeries, and large yard.—For particulars apply to Mr. John Mundy, on the premises.

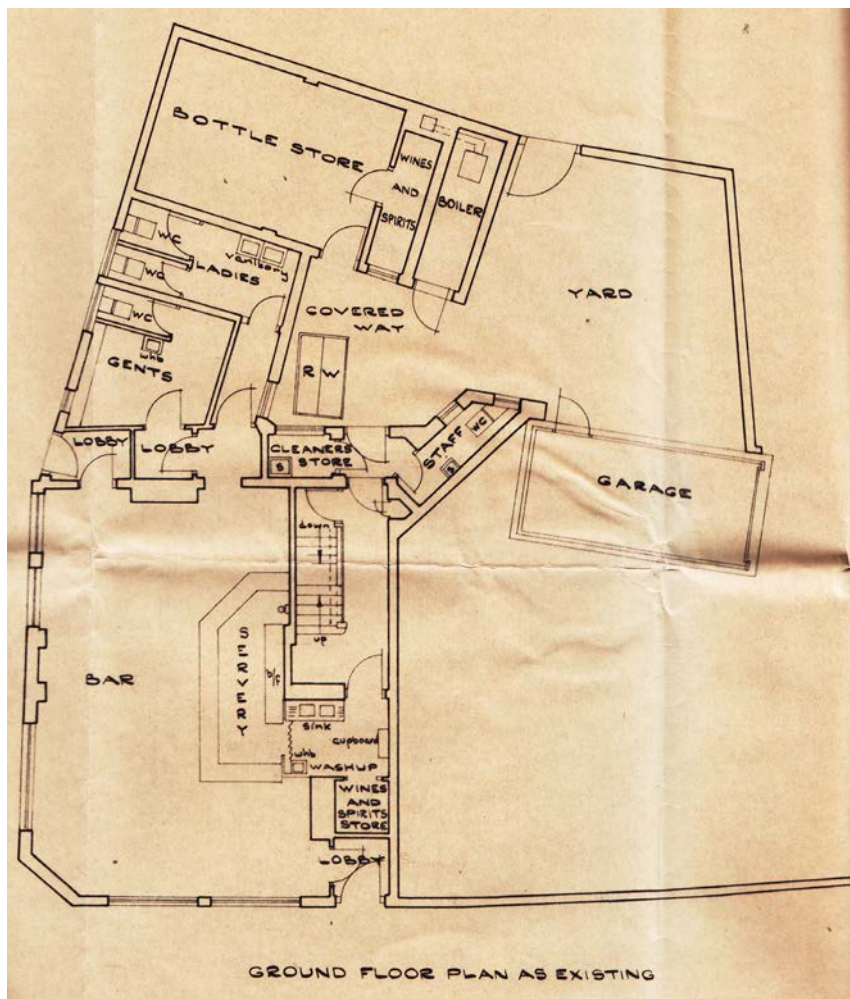
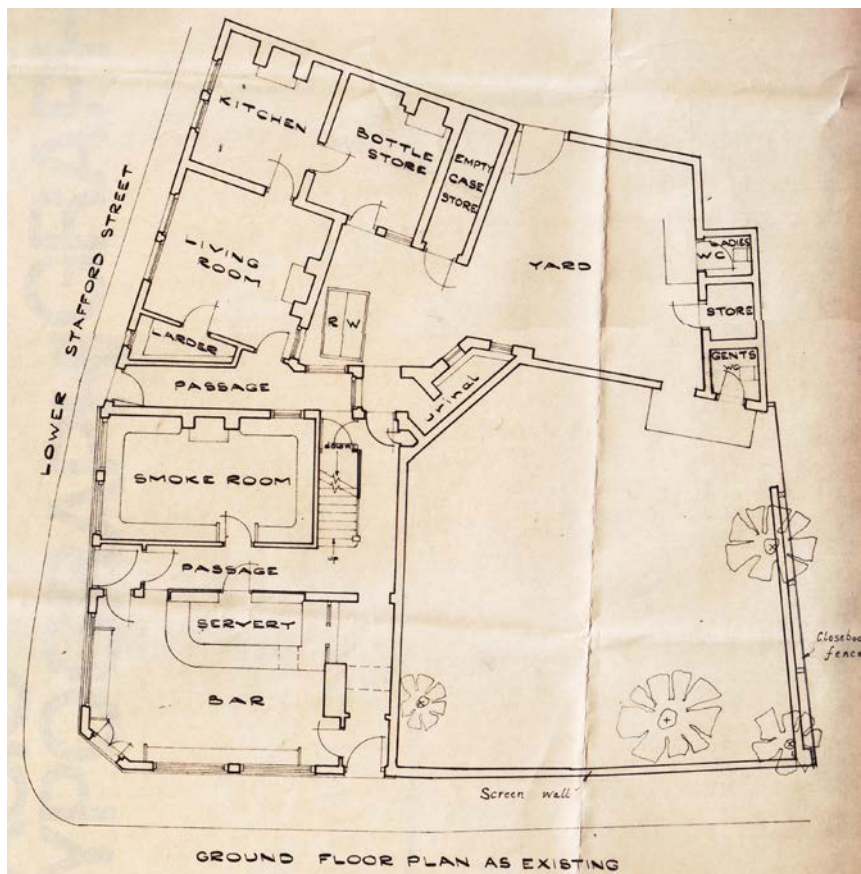
WOLVERHAMPTON.—To be **SOLD**, the Full-licensed **PUBLIC-HOUSE**, Elephant and Castle, situate at the junction leading to Stafford and Cannock. The premises are freehold and free from chief, which, with the Brewhouse, Yard, Piggeries, Stabling for six horses, Coach-house, Outbuildings, and Garden, containing nearly half an acre of land, together with Three Freehold Cottages, will be sold cheap. Immediate possession can be had if required.—For particulars, apply to J. Mundy, on the premises

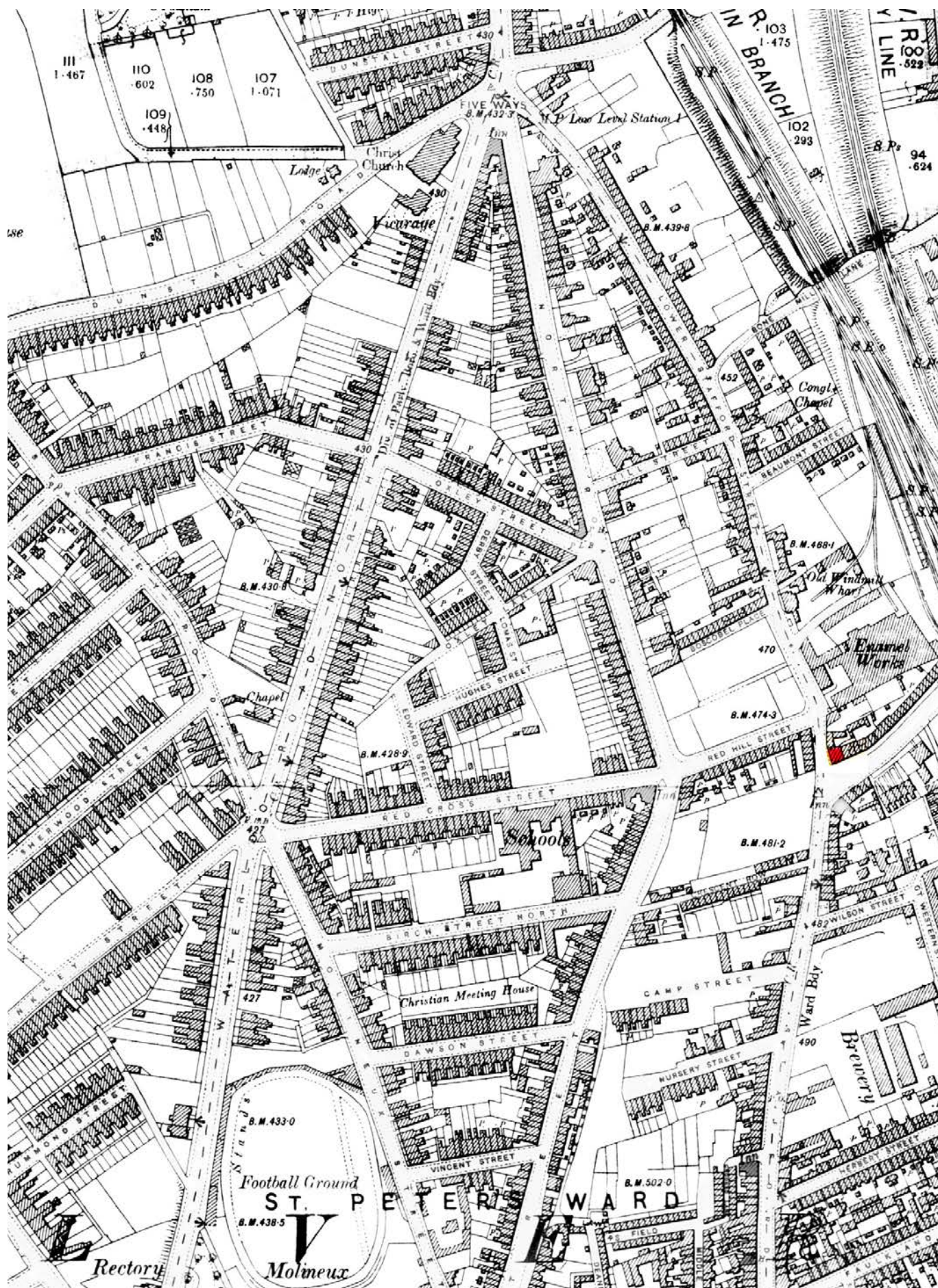
FOR SALE, that **FREEHOLD PROPERTY**, the **ELEPHANT and CASTLE PUBLICHOUSE**, with the three adjoining **DWELLING-HOUSES**. Stabling, Piggeries, Garden, Coal-yard, Slaughterhouse, situate top of Cannock-road, Stafford-street.—For particulars, apply to Mr. John Mundy.

Adverts 1876

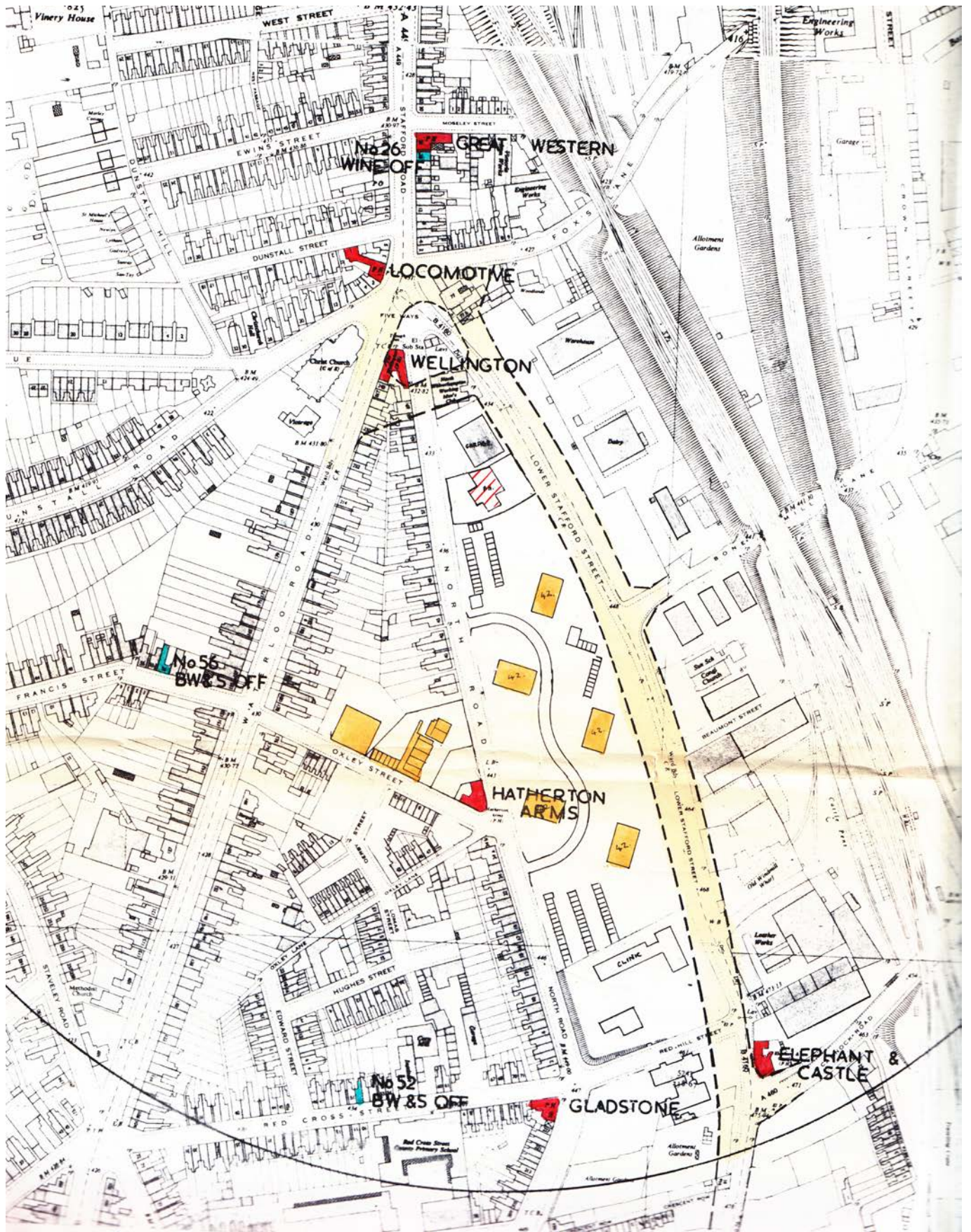
FOR Sale, Horse, with Harness, Waggonette (to carry nine), with cushions, lamps, &c., complete; also, Spring Cart, well-bred Heifer, with calf two days old, and one Cow.—Mr. Mundy, Elephant and Castle, Cannock-road.

Advert 1877





Map 1902



Map 1963

HOW TO USE THE INFORMATION

PUB NAME

This is generally the name by which the pub was officially known. Other names, either changes or nicknames, are to be found in the notes section.

Names marked with + are, at present, not specifically identified as being any of those listed before them, and have not been attributed yet because of the lack of data available.

Pubs are not listed necessarily under their current name.

A number of beerhouses were never given a name, and these appear at the end of the pub lists as Beerhouse – Unnamed. Only those that I am pretty sure had 'on' licences are included.

This is sometimes the case with alehouses too.

Can't find the pub you want?

It's probably had its name changed. Try using the search facility to locate the pub name, or nickname, that you know.

ADDRESS

Eg. 52, (79), Haden Street, (Haden Lane) / Cox Alley, Kates Hill, DUDLEY

Numbers and street names in brackets denote earlier addresses. These are usually detailed in the notes section. Buildings were renumbered with development and demolition, or the renaming of the street etc.

/ = on the corner with.....

Sometimes districts are also included, such as Kates Hill above. These are often historical and are now obsolete, but can be located on early maps.

OWNERS

These are listed where known.

They include companies and individuals, and occasionally the dates acquired and prices paid.

LICENSEES

Often the owner was the licensee, and even when they employed managers their names would appear in directories.

Where known, names are appended with (manager, non-resident, tenant etc.).

Dates

These are differentiated by the use of brackets and/or italics.

[1862] = This was the case in 1862. Where the date appears on its own it refers to the earliest or latest reference found.

This also applies where a pub has its name changed, eg.

[2001] followed by "Its name was changed to XXXXX. [2003]"

This means that in 2001 it still had its previous name, but by 2003 its name had been changed to XXXXX.

[1862] = Information from a directory dated 1862, so may have been out of date when it was published. As much as five years in some cases!

[c. 1862] = About 1862, but exact date not known.

[1860's] = Some time in this decade.

[] = No date available, but the detail is inserted in roughly the right chronological place.

(1862 – [1863] = Started in 1862 and was still the case in 1863.

[1862] – **1863)** = It was the case in 1862 and **ended** in 1863.

(1862 – 1863) = Started in 1862 and **ended** in 1863.

(1862 – 1863); the ; signifies that the licensee was immediately followed by the next person in the list. Sometimes the licence transfer came months after a person's death, but the transfer date is the one used, if date of death is not known.

Sometimes the licensing registers contradict findings from other sources such as directories. Where this occurs the ; is still used, the anomalous name is given a question mark and is placed in a suitable chronological place, and the next person is the one that follows the ;

Eg.

Fred Smith [1916] – **1927);**

Joseph Bloggs [1921] ?

George Jones **(1927 – 1932)**

In the register George Jones follows on from Fred Smith, but Joseph Bloggs was mentioned in another source in 1921. He is left in for completeness.

When using original documents, such as licensing registers, which are sometimes damaged, it is impossible to read some material (including dates). Where this has occurred, and only the decade or century is decipherable, I have used underscoring to replace the missing digits in an effort to keep the licensees in the correct order.

Eg. Fred Smith **(188_ – 18_);**

John Jones **(18__ – 189_):**

If the date is followed with a : this signifies the last person to hold the licence.

NOTES

These start with locations, and are followed by previous names or nicknames of the pub. These are then followed by other details, often where dates are unknown.

Historical details then follow chronologically where possible.

Some pubs listed are the same as others, but so far I have been unable to connect them. This is especially true when directories only list the pub name and licensee, and more than one pub of that name existed at the time. These are often identified by:-
Check OTHER PUB NAME.

Licensees are often associated with more than one pub, and pubs are sometimes rebuilt on different sites to their original one. These are identified by:-
See OTHER PUB NAME

Titles – only Miss and Mrs are used here (when known).
No other titles are used.
ie. Major George Cox was not a major. Major was his first name.

Often names were spelt differently in the sources used. This is identified where possible, and one spelling is used for consistency.

Where I have decided that different spellings are the same person I have identified this
eg. *Smith* = Smithe = Smyth

Where I am unsure about this I have identified it thus

* possibly the same person

or

* probably the same person

Where sources are quoted these appear in **colour**, followed by the quote in black in a different typeface from the remainder of the information. Sometimes I have paraphrased a quotation, and some have had additions entered by myself.

Information which has been transcribed by me from handwritten sources, such as censuses, parish records, licensing minutes etc., should be correctly spelt, but the reader is advised to check the original for themselves. In cases where I have been unable to transcribe individual names, only those letters that are clear are given.
eg, Osbal__on ? The underscore does not indicate the number of missing letters, as this is often as unclear as the name itself.

Where I am not 100% sure that I have deciphered a name correctly this is indicated by a question mark in parentheses ie. (?)

Census records are presented in a different form than the original.

[1] = position in the household.

This is followed by the name and (age).

Relationship to [1] follows, and then occupation (if any is listed).

Finally comes the place of birth. Where these places are local to the Black Country, or are larger towns and cities, no county name is given.

Where birthplaces are given in the Black Country it has to be remembered:-

(a) Harborne once included Smethwick

(b) Kingswinford once covered places such as Brierley Hill, Pensnett, Quarry Bank and Wall Heath

(c) Sedgley once included Coseley and the Gornals

(d) West Bromwich once included Great Bridge (now in the Tipton file), Great Barr and Hamstead (not considered by me as part of the Black Country).

Most local newspapers were weekly and appeared on a Saturday.
This does not apply to the Express & Star, Midland Counties Evening Express, or Evening News / Star.

Newspaper articles sometimes spell the same thing (eg. Surname) differently in a single report. Where the proper spelling is known this is altered by me, but when I am unsure they are left as they appear.

A gazeteer is provided to give approximate locations of place names in relation to larger towns and cities in Britain.

Where a licensee changes her name by marriage, her former surname appears in brackets ie. Jane (maiden or previous married name) Smith.

Where names of spouses are known, they are listed in the past tense, even though many may be still husband and wife. This is merely a convention used by me for convenience.

[text] Where square brackets occur, with text in a different typeface inside, this signifies comments of my own.

Some entries, in all sections, are followed by a number of question marks (without parentheses). These show the extent of doubt that I have over that entry.

The historical nature of the contents has meant that the old currency of pounds shillings and pence is used frequently. A pound (£) was divided into 20 shillings (s) and a shilling was divided into 12 pence (d). Halfpennies and farthings (1/4d) were also in use.

This is also the case where other measures, length, weight etc., are used. See glossary for details.