

THE GREATER WIGSTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE OLD CROWN INN – Wigston Magna



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By Jim Colver

End

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The Inn has an old Ice House located on the left hand side of the Inn. The area is now overgrown and the ice house entrance has been covered with wood.



End

Wigston Council Significant Buildings List

THE OLD CROWN INN MOAT STREET WIGSTON MAGNA

Date:- 18th May 2013

Currently Occupied:- YES

Current Use:- Inn

Description:-

'L' shaped building of old handmade bricks and painted white. The original basic oblong structure was added to with a frontage on the ground floor only and then a lean to type extension on the rear of the building covered with a slate roof. At the rear of the Inn are outbuildings, one of which is used as a skittles alley.

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Greater Wigston Historical Society Photograph Reference:- 22-005

Age:-

circa 1750

Architectural:-

One of Wigston Man's very old Inns, The Old Crown Inn standing near All Saints' Church in Moat Street is first mentioned in Mute's Directory of 1846 with Charles Davenport as the Landlord.

Part of Collective Group:-

Yes. There is the main building, outbuildings at the rear and also an old ice house on the left hand side of the Inn.

Historical:-

A distinctive Old Inn which is now the oldest in Wigston Magna.

Rarity:-

A unique Inn

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Social or Communal Value:-

Part of the social fabric of the village and a meeting place for all.

Other information:-

Other business men consisted of a grocer, a pork butcher, a coal dealer and one out-door beer seller together with John Forryan who kept the 'Old Crown'. He arrived in Wigston from Narborough and was the landlord of the public house from 1882 to 1888.

The pub was listed as either the Old Crown Inn, the Old Crown or the Crown Inn.

Directory	Date	Landlord
Post Office	1855	Hurst, John and shoemaker
Drakes	1861	Hurst, John
Whites	1862	Mary Hurst
Post Office	1864	Hurst, Mary (Mrs)
Barkers	1874	Hurst, Mary (Mrs)
Post Office	1876	Mary Hurst
Whites	1877	Hurst, Mary vict.
Kellys	1881	Goodwin, Thomas
Wrights	1882	Forryan Jno
Wrights	1888	Barron Wm.
Kellys	1888	Barrow, Wm.
Wrights	1895	Hill, Albert
Wrights	1899	Hackett, Ben
Kellys	1900	Hackett, Ben
Kellys	1904	Hackett, Ben
Kellys	1908	Hackett, Ben
Kellys	1916	Hackett, Ben
Kellys	1922	Hackett, William Ernest
Kellys	1925	Hackett, William Ernest
Kellys	1928	Hackett, Wm. Ernest
Kellys	1932	Hackett, William Ernest
Kellys	1936	Clark, Desmond K
Kellys	1941	Clark, Desmond K

Landlords leaving one Public House have appeared to stay in the locality, for example:- in 1895 Ben Hackett is at the Star and Garter before going to the Crown and in 1936 W. E. Hackett is at the Horse and Trumpet after the Crown. Also the tenancy appeared to pass from one generation of a family to another to William Ernest Brackett (His son).

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The Old Crown Inn, which in 1881 was managed by John Forryan. But in 1891 it had a new manager who was William Barron, 42, from Leicester. His wife, Ann, 54, came from Hallaton and they had an adopted son, Ernest Wesley, 21, a shoe rivetter.

First mentioned in White's Directory of 1846 with Charles Davenport as the landlord. Probably built 100 years earlier for the brickwork is considered to be amongst the oldest in Wigston. With the exception of a modernised skittle alley, the buildings to the rear remain intact.

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