

The Angel Inn, Stony Stratford.

There have been several Angel inns at Stony Stratford. The first mention of an Angel public house was in 1677⁽¹⁾, this one believed to be later re-named the Barley Mow. Another "Angel" is mentioned in 1693⁽²⁾, but there is no location given. The Rising Sun in the High Street was later renamed The Angel and finally re-located and re-named as The Plough Inn in London Road ⁽³⁾. In 1938 the Plough Inn was moved next door into the disused school building (vacated when St. Mary's and St. Giles school moved to new premises in 1937), the old Plough Inn became a part of Caves Garage, and was finally demolished around 1960 to build a car showroom for the garage and later the present petrol filling station and shop.

The longest-lived Angel Inn in Stony Stratford, at no.11 High Street, is shown on an 1806 street plan of the town. The Angel Inn, along with Hall & Whites Grocers shop at no.9, a private house at no.13 and a cottage at no.17, were all owned at one time by Fleming's Agricultural Engineers, which itself was demolished in the 1950's, and later a car showroom was built on the site. Finally, all of this was demolished in 1972 as part of the development of Coffridge Close. Barclays Bank now stands on the site that The Angel Inn and Hall & Whites once occupied.

The Angel Inn's entrance doorway and surround was delivered to Milton Keynes Museum in 1973 with the intention of re-using it as part of a public house exhibit. The doorway and surround have now been restored and form part of the representation of The Angel Inn in the Museum's period 'street of shops'.

There had been a least one earlier attempt to close and demolish The Angel Inn. About 1937 there was a petition signed by The Angel Inn's customers to prevent its closure by the brewery - this was possibly why the brewery took an audit of beers and spirits sold in 1928 and 1934 ⁽³⁾. They found that in 1928 The Angel Inn sold:

208	barrels of beer
362 dozen	bottles of beer
273 dozen	half bottles of beer
£192.00	wines and spirits

and in 1934 The Angel Inn sold:

194	barrels of beer
484 dozen	bottles of beer
390 dozen	half bottles of beer'
£287.00	wines and spirits.

Known records of ownership

5 May 1769: Richard Brooks bought the Angel from John Dickens.

2 September 1779: Richard Brooks made his will. Left property to Samuel Brooks.

25 March 1803: Samuel and Sarah Brooks sold "*to Thomas Meads of Stony Stratford yeoman, a messuage and yard formerly in the occupation of Henry Richardson then of Richard Brooks and a public house known as the Angel and other property for £347* ".

23 July 181?: Thomas Meads died.

September 1819: Mary Ann Meads married Thomas Bates but continued to hold the licence. Thomas Bates died leaving Mary Ann Bates as sole licensee.

12 September 1839: Mary Ann Bates married Frederick Brook.

20 May 1843: Thomas Bates late of Stony Stratford, then of Cheltenham and Frederick Brook of Toleshunt Knights in Essex and his wife Mary Ann (nee Bates), sold the Angel to John Brown of Stony Stratford a Publican.

12 August 1866: John Brown died, and property at that time occupied by John Cattell Hudson, gross value £24.

3rd November 1881: Conveyance by John Cattell Hudson Innkeeper to P. Phipps & Co for £800. ⁽³⁾

Recorded Licensees

1790 – 1806? Elizabeth Mash

1806 - 1823 Thomas Meads (shown on 1806 street plan)

1823 - 1843 Mary Meads (known as Mary Ann Brock 1839 - 1843)

1843 - 1864 John Brown, born 1784

?

1877 - 1890 James Hudson; born 1826

1891 - 1895 Edwin South, born 1859

?

1899 - 1903 Charles Speaks

?

1907 - 1907 Charles Ball?

1907 - 1910 Frederick George Bull, ⁽⁴⁾

1910 - 1943 Arthur George Brown, ⁽⁴⁾

1939 - 1943 Elizabeth Brown, (widow of Arthur George Brown)

1943 - 1943 David Victor Brown, (conscripted into armed forces) ⁽⁴⁾

1943 - 1960 Bertha Brown (who was licensee to closing date, and for a number of years was also caretaker of the Public Hall opposite the Angel Inn).

1967 - 1973 Unoccupied, and demolished in 1973.

Sources: -

(1) The Nineteen Hundreds, S F Markham

(2) The History of Stony Stratford, Hyde and Markham.

(3) Ted Legg, Bletchley Archaeological and Historical Society.

(4) Inventories 1910 - 1960