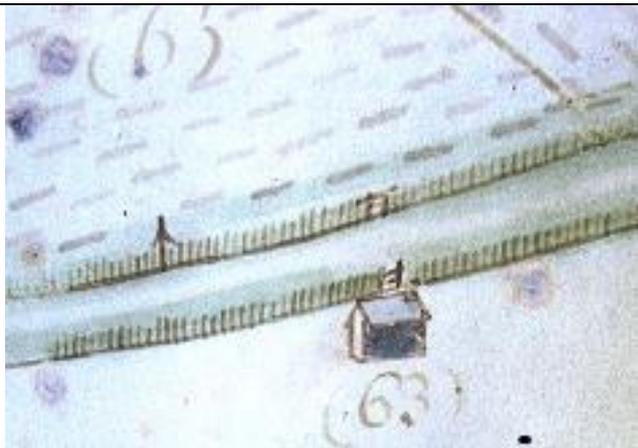


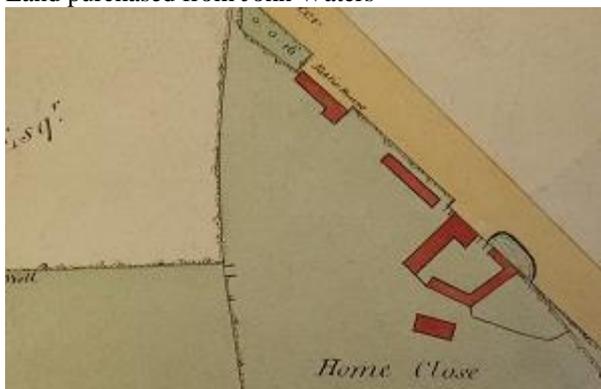
HISTORIC TOWCESTER SURVEY

THE FOLLY LONDON ROAD



CHRONOLOGY

Date	Occupier	Owner	Details	Ref
1728	No details	No details		Detail from map of Duke of Grafton's Estate in Paulerspury, 1728
1753	<i>Richard Bennet</i>		<i>County Court of Northampton Richard Bennett of Towcester at the Royal Oak acknowledges to our Sovereign Lord the King the sum of £10</i>	<i>Victuallers Recongizance</i>
1772		Mr Waters	Mr Waters for the Folley 3s 6d	Land Tax
1773		John Waters	Probate copy of the will of John Waters dated 12 th	Fermor Hesketh Box

			<p>August...</p> <p>Item all that my message or tenement with the barns and appurtances here unto belonging in the field and parish of Towcester aforesaid sometime called the Red House and also all that cottage or tenement with the appurtances in the field of Towcester aforesaid or in Paulerspury in the said county of Northampton sometimes called Jacobs Folly....</p> <p>I give devise and bequeath unto my youngest son William Waters</p>	U bundle 23 (6)
1775		William Waters	Burial of John Waters at Pattishall	Towcester families website
1780		William Waters	<i>Land tax – himself 2s 4d</i>	Land Tax
1814			<p>Lease and release dated 6th of July 1814</p> <p>John waters conveyed to the Earl of Pomfret in consideration of £3220 ...</p> <p>All that message or tenement with the barn stables and outbuildings and other appurtances thereunto belonging situate standing lying and being in the parish of Towcester and now or sometimes called by the name of the Red House. And all that cottage or tenement with the appurtances situate standing and being in the several parishes of Towcester and Paulerspury or in one of them and sometime called Jacobs Folly and now used as a public house or victualing-house...</p>	Fermor Hesketh Box U bundle 23
1814				OS "2 = 1 mile
1821	William Smith			Victuallers recognizances
1822		Earl of Pomfret	<p>Land purchased from John Waters</p> 	Fermor Hesketh Box T bundle 10
1822	William Smith		The Yeoman	Victuallers recognizances
1824	William Smith		The Yeoman	Pigot's Directory
1826	William Smith			Rating Valuation [NRO: TO 118]

1827				Bryant's Map
1828	William Smith			Victuallers' Recognizances
1830	William Smith		Royal Oak , London Road	Pigot's Directory
1840	William Smith		Royal Oak , London Road	Pigot's Directory
1841	William Smith		Royal Oak , London Road	Pigot's Directory
1841	William Smith		The Folley William Smith (60) publican Susannah Smith (65)	Census
1848	William Powell jnr	Earl of Pomfret	Royal Oak P.H. & stable, London Road GV £9 10s; RV £7 12s 6d	Fermor Hesketh Box W bundle 12
1849	John Powell		The Royal Oak	Whellan's Directory
1851	William Powell		Folly William Powell (30) innkeeper and dealer, born Paulerspury Mary Powell (34) innkeeper and dealer, born Blisworth William Powell (4) son, born Paulerspury Matilda Smith (14) servant, born Paulerspury James Bolton (22) servant, born Hemel Hempstead	Census – Towcester families website
1851			Towcester, extraordinary fat pig –a fat pig, of extraordinary size, was announced to pass through this place on Tuesday last. The animal wonder bred by Mr. William Powell, of the Royal Oak, near this town, and fed by Mr. Meads of the Fox and Hounds in, Floore. With extreme difficulty it was placed in a wagon and drawn by two horses, and reached Towcester about 5 o'clock in the evening. It was commenced being fed on the first of June last, and up to December 31 st and consumed the following quantity of food:- 40 bushels of barley meal, six ditto of beans, eight ditto of peas, two cwt of pollard, two tons of mangel wurzel, six quarters of the potatoes. Its present ascertained weight is 36 score.	Northampton Mercury 4 th Jan 1851
1854	John Holton		"The Royal Oak" , Jacob's Folly	Post Office Directory
1854	John Holton		The Royal Oak	Kelly's Directory
1855	John Holton	Earl of Pomfret	Royal Oak public house and buildings, London Road. GV £14; RV £9	Rating terrier
1861	Mary Ann Pettifer		Royal Oak, London Road Mary Ann Pettifer (60) victualler, born Towcester Maria Pettifer (19) , born Towcester Sarah Pettifer (16) , born Towcester Newman Reede (26) groom , boarder. Born Paulerspury	Census – Towcester families
1864	Charles Coggins			Kelly's Directory
1871	John May		Folly, London Road John May (28) innkeeper born Towcester	Census – Towcester families

			Sophia May (31) born Badby	
1874	George Powell		Transfer of licences – George Powell of Towcester applied to have the Licence of the Royal Oak public house transferred from John May to himself	Northampton Mercury 26 Sept 1874
1876	George Powell		Folly, London Road	Harrod's Directory
1881	George Powell		Folly, London Road George Powell (48) innkeeper, born Towcester Ellen Powell (32) born Deddington, Oxon Charles P Walton (5) scholar, stepson, born Tingewick Ernest G Walton (4) scholar, stepson, born Tingewick	Census
1882			Towcester. The Liberal and Radical Association has at last been formed. Two meetings had been held at the Royal Oak, and other meetings are arranged for elsewhere. Well wishers to the working man would desire that the association should rent some private room, instead of assembling at public houses.	Northampton Mercury 4 th March 1882
1884	George Powell		Folly House, London Road	Wright's Directory
1888	George Powell		Complimentary dinner at the Folly –on the Saturday evening a week Mr. and Mrs. George Powell host and hostess of the Folly Inn, entertained a good number two and excellent repast, which was capitally served. The chair was taken by Mr. Richard Norris and the evening was spent in conviviality – songs were well or rendered by Messrs. Norris, Davis, Garner, Perkins, Henson, Snedker &c. The Towcester hand bell ringers gave some capitals selections during the evening. The health of the host and hostess were given in suitable terms, and musically honoured. Mr. Powell, who was heartily received, appropriately acknowledged the compliment, and the evening was a most enjoyable one	Northampton Mercury 28 th Jan 1888
1888			A large company mustered last Saturday evening at Mr. G Powell's, the Folly Inn, Towcester, to witness two matches for small stakes, the first being a quoit match between George Garner and Frank Harris, which was won easily by the former. The second was 100 yards race between George Garner and old Jack Johnson, both of Towcester. Garner gave the 16 yards start. Both got well away, and after a most exciting race "old Jack" won by 6 inches. The remainder of the evening was spent in harmony and songs, which brought the evening to a joyful finish.	Northampton Mercury 14 th July 1888
1890	George Powell		Folly House P.H.	Kelly's Directory
1891	George Powell		Folly P.H., West Chester Road George Powell (57) innkeeper, born Towcester Ellen Powell (41) born Deddington, Oxon Fanny Powell (9) scholar, born Towcester	Census – Towcester families
1893	Anderson		Daniel Norman left stolen horse harnesses and a saddle at the Folly to be sold	Northampton Mercury 1 st December 1893
1898	George Peasnell		Folly P.H.	Kelly's Directory
1898			Folly Inn repair survey by Henry Martin Repair patching of the roof Repair shutters of front Bays Repair garden gate Repair spouting off on a lean-to at back Take of roof of pigsty. Relath and retile the same New fence and or required to one sty New brick back to great in parlour required	Fermor Hesketh Box T bundle 7

			Slightly repair bedroom upper floors	
1901	George Peasnell		Folly Tavern George Peasnell (53) Publican, born Towcester Sarah Peasnell (51) born Towcester Arthur D Howes (4) visitor born Bristol	Census – Towcester families
1904				OS sheet 84
1910	Mrs Mary Jane Calvert		Folly House, Public House	Kelly's Directory
1914	Mrs Mary Jane Spring		The Folly P.H., London Road	Kelly's Directory
1920	Mrs Mary Bagshaw		Folly Inn	Kelly's Directory
1925	Herbert Victor Bagshaw		Folly Inn	Kelly's Directory
1936	Herbert Victor Bagshaw		Folly Inn	Kelly's Directory
1940	Herbert Victor Bagshaw		Folly Inn	Kelly's Directory
1940				NRO: BPB 1026
1975			Listed Building Consent for extensions and alterations granted on 7 th October 1975. The plan shows that main entrance was the north door which led straight into the bar. A servery was against the west wall and on the south side of the room was the fire place. Between the fireplace and the rear wall was a dogleg stair which gave access to two bedrooms and store. A doorway between the fireplace and the front wall led to a games room with a bay window and fireplace. To the north of the bar was a small lounge with a fireplace and bay window. This room had an exposed spine beam supporting the first floor which partially projected into the bar area. Underneath the lounge was a cellar and there were flaps in front of the lounge bay window to allow for the delivery of casks. The southern section of the building had a separate entrance and contained a bottle area and the gents toilet. A staircase gave access to a loft above. To the rear of the bar and lounge was a single storey extension with a flat roof. This contained the kitchen and	SNC – microfiche S/1975/1190/LB

			service rooms.	
1976			Consent for extensions and alterations to licenced premises	S/1976/0170/P
1987			46 th list of buildings of special or historic interest for the District of South Northamptonshire as at 14 th Dec 1987 does not include an entry for the Folly under either Watling Street West or London Road.	DOE 1988 List of buildings of special or historic interest for the District of South Northamptonshire
2013			<p>March 17th. Brief inspection of the upper floor of the Folly was undertaken by Brian Giggins and Rod Conlon.</p> <p>The principal early feature surviving on the upper floor are the principal rafters of the north truss which are exposed in the bedroom situated above the kitchen. The Timbers are very narrow and form a matching pair. On the soffits of the principals are 'V' cuts which may mark the position of former side walls within the attic. The faces of the principals each have peg-holes which suggest that the truss had a single collar which was both face and squint pegged. On the back of the principals were two peg-holes which may indicate that the purlins both rested upon a peg and were pegged in position. It was not possible to see the apex of the truss in the roof space as a large water tank obliterated the view. This truss indicates that building was originally single storey as secondary principals were added above the original principals when the front wall and roof height were raised.</p> <p>There was insufficient evidence to firmly date either the original truss or the secondary principals. Vertical close set saw marks on of the original principals probably indicate that they were pit sawn. A medieval date for the truss is unlikely but a 17th or early 18th century date for both the truss and the northern half of the building is a possibility.</p> <p>It was possible to see the interior of the roof space through a loft hatch. This showed that the majority of the roof timbers are a new and that the central chimney stacks are of modern lightweight construction without flues beneath.</p>	BLG

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