

Townscape Heritage Project

Building Timeline

9 HIGH STREET



INTRODUCTION

The research to create a timeline of the historic buildings of Stockton has drawn on resources such as trade directories, newspapers and census information. Whilst we have been able to construct some quite detailed pictures, there are gaps which we would like to fill. If you have any further information that could assist us, please contact Eleanor.blyth@stockton.gov.uk.

We would like to thank volunteers who have worked on the timelines.



C 1828 LAVERICK

The Pigot & Co Directory 1828-29 shows Sarah Laverick at the Talbot. No further details of her tenancy have been found.

C 1841 SEVILLE

Margaret Deville is believed to have been in occupation of the premises in 1841. There is a Margaret Deville, publican recorded at an unnumbered address on High Street at about the right location. No further information has been found on Margaret.

C 1843 GRAHAM

The Bell's Life in London and Sporting Chronicle - Sunday 16 April 1843, in a section entitled Pedestrianism, refers to a racing challenge set by a Robert Cock of Stockton at Mrs Graham's Talbot Inn, Stockton. Pedestrianism was a popular sport in the 19th Century. Bets were taken on the speed at which competitors could cover long distances. No information has been found on the identity of Mrs Graham.

C 1847 PORRITT

There is a suggestion that John Porritt was in occupation of the premises around 1847.

C 1848 FOREST

E Forest is said to have occupied the premises in 1848. Again, there is no further information known.

C 1851 HALL

The Hall family were in occupation of the Talbot Inn at 9 High Street for a long period of its history. In the 1851 Census Joseph Hall is found living at number 9 with his wife Eleanor, their three children and servant and he features in the 1851 Hager & Co Directory of that year as occupying the Talbot Inn. The Post Office Directory 1858 shows Joseph Hall still at the Talbot. The 1861 Ward's Directory shows that Joseph Hall is still in occupancy, recorded there with his wife Eleanor, their 5 children and 2 servants (Ann Sudron and Jane Liddle), his occupation being Inn Keeper. The 1871 Census shows the Talbot Inn as occupying numbers 9 & 10 High Street with Joseph Hall living there with his wife Eleanor and their 3 children, grandson and servant (Catherine McMahon). Joseph's occupation is described as an Inn Keeper.

In the 1881 Census Joseph Hall is again stated as occupying numbers 9 & 10 High Street. He is now a widower living with his children, grandson, a boarder (Richard Hirst) and servants.

Joseph Hall's funeral was reported in the Durham County Advertiser of 10 August 1883



FUNERAL OF THE OLDEST STOCKTON INNKEEPER

On Wednesday the mortal remains of Mr Jos, hall, who for over 34 years was 'Mine host' of the Talbot Hotel, High Street, Stockton, and one of the most respected tradesmen of the town, were interred in the cemetery there. Of late years the deceased had been in failing health and relinquished business about 12 months ago, going to reside with his daughter at Shields. One of the old school, he was revered and respected by all who knew him. On the arrival of the North train at noon there was a goodly number of tradesmen at the station who were joined by others on cemetery to pay their last mark of memory.

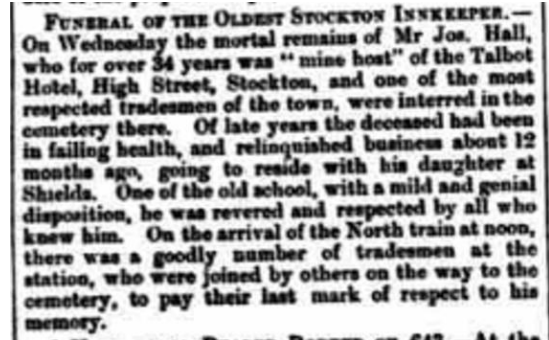


Figure 1 Death Notice: Durham County Advertiser 10th August 1883: British Newspaper Archive

C 1882 ARUNDALE

According to the Hartlepool Northern Daily Echo 25th August 1882, the Talbot Inn Licence is transferred from Joseph Hall to John Arundale. Kelly's Directory of Durham 1890 shows John Arundale at the premises. The 1891 Census shows that John Arundale is living at the premises with his wife Mary, four boarders and two servants (Maria Cammack and Robert Ayre) John is recorded as being a Licensed Victualler. He is recorded at the premises in the Directory until 1899.

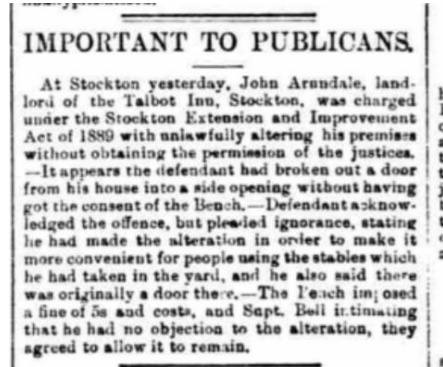


Figure 2 Important to Publicans: Northern Daily Mail (4 August 1891) British Newspaper Archive

In 1891 John Arundale is prosecuted for unlawful alteration of the Talbot Inn. The news report gives an insight into the layout and usage of the building. Mr Arundale had created a doorway from the house to effect easier access to the stables. He stated that a door was there previously.



Figure 3 Talbot for sale: The Scotsman (30 September 1899) British Newspaper Archive

In 1899 the sale of the Inn is reported in the press. The article gives an insight into the prominence of the Inn's location on the High Street as well as its layout. It is described as being on the main thoroughfare and in direct line of the traffic from the railway station. There is a 12 stalled stable and a workshop at the rear.





Figure 4 Talbot Inn Early 1900s: Stockton Archive

C 1901 ATKINSON

W.T Atkinson is recorded at the premises in the 1900-1901 Ward's Directory, however the 1901 Census indicates the presence of a different family. The entry is illegible, the name being similar to Johnathan Robert Whiticowk, recorded as a licensed victualler. He is resident with his wife, 3 daughters and a boarder. Nothing has been found on this family.

C 1902 BONE

According to the 1902 Ward's Directory, a Mrs K Bone is managing the premises, the name having changed to the Talbot Hotel the previous year. She is found in a newspaper article advertising for staff in The Newcastle Chronicle 28 July 1903 for a young lady for the buffet bar. She is manager until 1911.



C 1906 WOOD

The 1906 Ward's Directory records Edward Fry Wood as owner of the premises, with Mrs K Bone as Manageress.

A report to the Stockton on Tees Sanitary Committee dated October 1905 gives an insight into the interior of the building.

TALBOT HOTEL, High Street.

Cellar—Paved with cement concrete and drained by gully in floor, well lighted and ventilated.

Ground floor—Bar, buffet, and smoke room, all well lighted and ventilated.

First floor—Billiard room, dining room, and lavatory, two water closets and urinal, all well lighted and ventilated; water closet lavatory and urinal in order.

Second floor—Water closet on landing, kitchen, scullery, sitting room, wine cupboard and one bedroom, in order, and all well lighted and ventilated.

Third floor—Four bedrooms, and box room, all well lighted and ventilated.

Yard—Paved with cement concrete, in order, and drained by gully; urinal, four adamant patent stalls with good flush and drained to gully; water closet in order; private yard, paved with cement, in order; dry ashpit uncovered.

[Report to the Stockton-on-Tees Sanitary Committee October 1905](#)

Wood remodelled the Talbot. Here is a transcript of a report in the Shields Daily News dated 29 July 1908. It was also referenced in another article that the upholstery and some of the upholstery design were furnished by local firm D Hill, Carter and Co.



Mr E.F Wood of Starcross, Monkseaton, who for many years was a well-known licensed victualler in North Shields has just opened at Stockton, a very large and handsome hotel, which he has named the Talbot. The building is situated in High Street the principal thoroughfare of the town, and both externally and internally it is a fine example of the architects and decorator's art. It is considerably larger than the North-Eastern Hotel, in Nile Street North Shields, which was built by Mr Wood so that some idea may be formed locally of the dimensions of the new structure. It is fully equipped and beautifully fitted, the screens counters and buffets all being made of polished mahogany, with cut and embossed glass panels. A feature in the hotel is the billiard room, which is luxuriously furnished and is considered to be the finest saloon in the north. This portion of the premises was formally opened by the well known cueist Diggle and Charles Wilkenson, the Yorkshire champion who played an exhibition game before a large gathering of admiring spectators. Mr Wood has spared no expense in making the new hotel attractive and comfortable for his patrons and no doubt the new venture will prove profitable investment. He has entrusted the management to Mrs Bone, who for a long period held with credit to herself and with satisfaction to the owner a similar appointment at the North-Eastern Hotel, North Shields, which position she vacated after Mr Wood disposed of the building.

According to the 1911 Census, Wood's son John William Wood is residing at the premises with his wife Margaret Ann and their 6 Servants (Maud Alice Thompson, Maisie Bell, Elizabeth Raddigan, Jeanie Arnison, Edith McVickers and Florrie Wright) In the 1911 Census it is stated that this is a 13-room building. John is recorded as a Licensed Victualler. The Hotel remains with Wood until the 1917-1918 Ward's Directories.

The presence of Mrs Wood at the Talbot Hotel is indicated by a number of advertisements including, a for a barmaid in the Daily Gazette for Middlesbrough 23rd July 1914 and for a house maid in the Daily Gazette for Middlesbrough 5 July 1916.



The Talbot & Sport

Full advantage appears to have been taken of the facilities at the newly remodelled Talbot. The Stockton Herald, South Durham and Cleveland Advertiser - Saturday 10 April 1909 describes the hosting of Stockton's Billiard Championship at the Talbot, with J Wilson of the Royal Oak pronounced champion.

The Talbot & World War 1

The Northern Daily Mail March 22nd 1918 contains a notice for a "mass meeting" at the Talbot Hotel of the Amalgamated Foreman's Association, the shipyard foreman of Hartlepool and Tees District being urged to attend.

The Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer of Saturday 23 March 1918 gives some clues as to the motivation for the meeting. The article makes reference to all the available berths on the Tees being full and describes the ongoing construction of the new yard at Haverton Hill, considered pivotal to the increase in output from the Tees yards. Indeed, the first keel was laid only three months after the beginning of the construction of the yard and the ship was launched early in 1919.¹ The total output of ships from the Tyne, Wear and Tees during the war amounted to 1,130 vessels of all sizes and descriptions with an aggregate tonnage of 3,324,912. This represented an average of five ships a week throughout the war, achieved despite of a heavy drain on shipyard labour to the armed forces and despite the big increase in repair work. Towards the end of 1917 there was a growing demand for more and more ships, both naval and merchant, to counter the German submarine offensive. The Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer of Saturday 15 December 1917 reported the Prime Minister, Lloyd George's assertion that "Victory is now a question of tonnage and tonnage is victory."²



Figure 5 Wilson The Stockton Herald, South Durham and Cleveland Advertiser - Saturday 10 April 1909 British Newspaper Archive

¹ Dougan, D. J. (1968) A history of north east shipbuilding: being an attempt to describe and analyse the development of shipbuilding in the North East of England from earliest times to the end of 1967, Durham theses, Durham University. Available at Durham E-Theses Online: <http://etheses.dur.ac.uk/9906/>

² Ibid



The Shipyard Question was debated in Parliament with specific reference to the Tees. On 30th July 1918 Mr Walter Runciman, MP for Hartlepool addressed Parliament about efforts on the Tees:

“There, under the energetic guidance of one of the most enterprising of our young shipbuilders, a yard was started in the month of March this year. By the month of July of this year that yard was actually at work, and before a week or two is over they will be turning out the very fabricated ships which were originally intended for the national yards. Compare that with what has happened in the national yards. Twice, almost three times, the amount of time has been spent on the national yards than has been spent over this magnificent yard on the Tees. The energy which has been put into that private yard is an example for the Government which they might well follow”.³ The meeting to be held at the Talbot is reflective of the call for skilled labourers and workers in Stockton to meet demand and the impact on the town.

There was also a demand for accommodation as seen in this advertisement in the Northern Daily Mail.



Figure 6: Lodgings Wanted: Northern Daily Mail (25 March 1918) British Newspaper Archive

The Stockton Herald, South Durham and Cleveland Advertiser - Saturday 23 September 1916 offers another insight into daily life in Stockton at this time. The newspaper records the imposition of a fine to E.F Wood and others for contravening the Lighting Order. J.W Wood was fined £1 1 Shilling for allowing light to stream from the entrance of the hotel. Lighting restrictions had been introduced in 1915 to dim lights to protect the public from German Zeppelin bombing raids.

By 1918 John had joined the Royal Air Force aged 45 years.

³ <https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/1918-07-30/debates/dd727b20-d3af-4373-bddd-95c6cc12fe73/OrdersOfTheDay>



After the War

Edward Fry Wood died in 1922. John and Margaret are recorded in the 1939 England and Wales Register in Monkseaton.

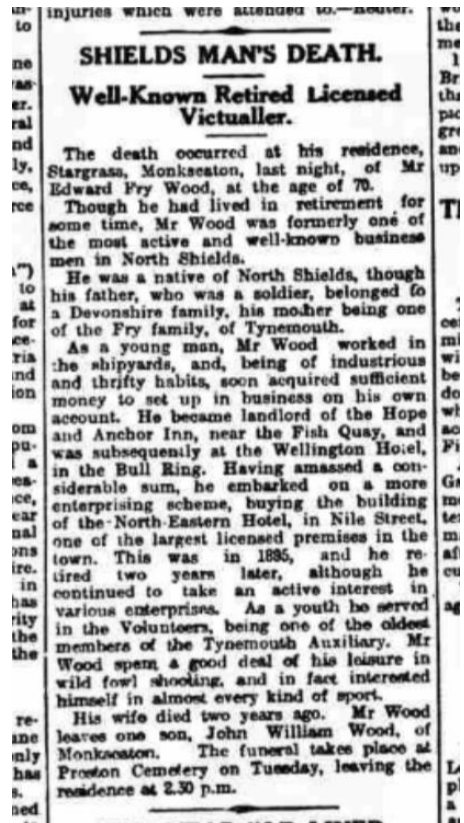


Figure 6 Shields Man's Death: The Shields Daily News (24 June 1922)



C 1921 MULHOLLAND

The presence of Mulholland is indicated in the Ward's Directories from 1921 until 1925.

C 1926 DUCHAR

From 1926- 1929 the Ward's Directories record the Talbot Hotel as being under the stewardship of Duchar.

In 1927 the Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer on the 17 August 1927 reports an unsuccessful compensation claim for Randolph Beazley who received injuries working as Manager at the Talbot in April 1926.

C 1930 TURNER

From 1930 through till 1939 the premises is recorded as Sir John Fitzgerald, managed by C Turner between 1930 and 1933.

C 1934 OWEN

The premises is under the management of a W.F Owen from 1934 to 1939. His presence is indicated by a news report of a sad accident to his daughter in 1935.



Figure 8 Fall from and Landing: Northern Daily Mail (8 June 1935) British Newspaper Archive



