

Pembury Pubs

Black Horse

Tithe Schedule (c 1840) says 'House & garden', tenant William Allcock. It was the only property in Pembury owned by Samuel Windes. There is no mention of it being a beerhouse, and there is no indication whether the building is new or not. In 1841 census tenant is William Alcock (bn c1800) & his occupation is 'beershop'.

1892 Edward Smith of Edenbridge, plumber (I think his wife was a descendent of Allcock's wife) sold it to Benjamin Collard Bushell of Westerham, brewer & maltster.

Apr 1878 - licence transferred from J W Cox to Luke Weston

1892 - tenant John Stanley Smith & Philip Simpson (or undertenants)

1938 - Coleman

1879 - was mentioned in case of drunkenness

The Camden

This is definitely 'The Five Bells'. In 1792 George Feldwick took over lease of Five Bells & Chalket from Samuel Springate (Thos Streatfeild owner) and in 1813 he leased Camden Arms & Chalket for 10 years from 1811. Lord Camden bought the Bayham estate which included the coaching inn in 1799, hence the change of name circa 1805. This is the proof of continuity.

Even English Heritage say the building is 18th century, but I can remember, before the latest modernisation, a very old back-to-back fireplace in the middle of the property. Given its location on the main road London to Rye there has probably been an inn there since medieval times. There was an inn known as the sign of 'The Cock' in the area in 1595 and think that could be the same place.

Owners:

1702- Will of Charles Amherst (The 5 Bells lying at Pem Green in which William Turner, butcher, now lives & lands thereunto belonging)

1789 - Will of Elizabeth Browne

1792 - Thomas Streatfeild

1800 - Camden

1820 - Camden

1832 - Camden

Tenants:

1637? Mary Smither

1702 - William Turner, butcher

1789 - Samuel Springate

1792 - new lease to George Feldwick

1800 - George Feldwick

1820 - Mrs Feldwick

1826/32 - Benjamin Pawley

1839/40 – Richard Jeffrey Cloute (from Piggot)
1845 Edward Pawley
1870s – Alexander Macgregor
1878 – Mrs Macgregor
1886/9 – William Andrews
1891 – Clarence Pigo & family were living here
1895 – Thomas Johnson, Carter

1905 – William Thorne
1913 – Fred Williams
1918 – Charles Grant
1927 - Bishop
1930 - Williams
1935 – A G Allen
1938 – Horn

King William 4th

I think there is a 'typo'. It became a pub c 1848, not 1948!

At Tithe – Edward Gower, house & shop.

1841 - He was a carpenter at Henwoods Green (therefore same property). He seems to have moved to a new built house in 1847, after which it became a pub.

1848 – John Pavey, licensee

1841 - JP (bn 1826) an Ag Lab living with his parents near the old church.

1851 – JP, Beerseller of Hastings Rd, living with 2 sisters

Royal Oak, Lower Green

Tithe – House & garden – tenant William Alcock, owner Elizabeth Amherst of now Queens Folly.

1841 – William Alcock (bn 1818) Ag Lab & siblings etc living Lower Green (no HC in Pembury)

1851 – Henry Chittenden, carpenter living Royal Oak Beershop, Lower Green, so must have got licence during the 1840s (Mrs Alcock was nee Chittenden, is Hy her brother?). This is probably when property was extended to the front. (It has double gables looks more like 1850 than 1800.)

Royal Oak, Woodsgate

Historically in Tonbridge parish, not Pembury.

This existed as a coaching inn during the 19th century

1823 listed as holding sale details for a property in Pembury

1839 - Edward Pawley (Piggot) – he was at The Camden by 1845

1841 – Maria Pawley was licensee at Woodsgate Inn.

Woodsgate Inn

1820 - Posting House & inn, tenant James Harris

1837 - Still an inn

By 1850 - a private house k/a Woodsgate

1886/95 – home of Major-Gen Dixon VC

1932 - 16th cent coach house recently bought by Mr Geo Lewis & turned into Guest house. It was next to Baggessons Nursery. This puts it on site of Woodsgate Way, next to the garage.

It was from this that the swimming pool developed and the ancillary activities such as the Night Club.

I am not sure whether or not the Royal Oak, Woodsgate is the same as the Woodsgate Inn, but it probably is, just changed its name for a few years. However, if Ed Pawley moved to The Camden

c1845 and the Royal Oak name was no longer used at Woodsgate that fits with the Royal Oak, Lower Green coming into existence by 1851. I have not found any evidence of them being in business at the same time.

Also, the information above may still refer to two different buildings as I think there was another large building/residence on the 'Notcutts' corner which is possibly where Major Dixon lived. The Woodsgate area really needs more investigation before anything definitive is published.

The Forresters

Tenants:

1881 George Fry

1891 Spencer Kennard

1918 ?Mrs May

1927/38 Rice-Oxley

The Waterloo Inn

At Tithe – site of 31 Hastings Rd – a house & beershop, owned by Thomas Smith, tenant William Pavey (see King Wm – John Pavey, his brother)

(1841 William eldest of 7 siblings living with parents near parish church)

1851 – William missing but no death in Pembury

The present building on the site is definitely late 19th century, so must have been rebuilt.

The building on the tithe map looks like a pair of cottages, but only one number and one tenant in the schedule.

Cockshoot Cottages

I am not in the least convinced that there was ever a pub here. I think it is probably a theory put about by the fanciful Victorians because they knew there was a 'Five Bells' somewhere and they may have known the Vestry met there and this is the only suitably old building near the church. However, it was not a suitable place for the vestry to meet. EH say one cottage is 16th century, but the other one is late 19th or even 20th century. There weren't even any other houses about to make a beerhouse viable.

Three Stars

This was at 1 Hawkwell Cottages, Maidstone Rd. (the one nearest Pembury) They are opposite Redwings Lane.

Swiss Cottage

The address is actually 1 Romford Rd, the house it was attached to is in Henwood Green Rd. (Before the Chapel was built Romford Road started at the junction of Back Lane or Henwood Green Rd. The track in front of the Chapel was then known as Chapel Lane, even into the 20th century. Henwood Green Road towards Bopeep is also a later edition, possibly 18th century. Your 1769 map & Hasted both only show a track rather than a road)

Your Queries

1891 James Fry lived at Swiss Cottage, Romford Rd – therefore he can be assumed to be there in 1892.

Mrs Grass – never come across her, could be Gross, but still no evidence. Also, can't find a Charles Humphrey even though it is a local name.