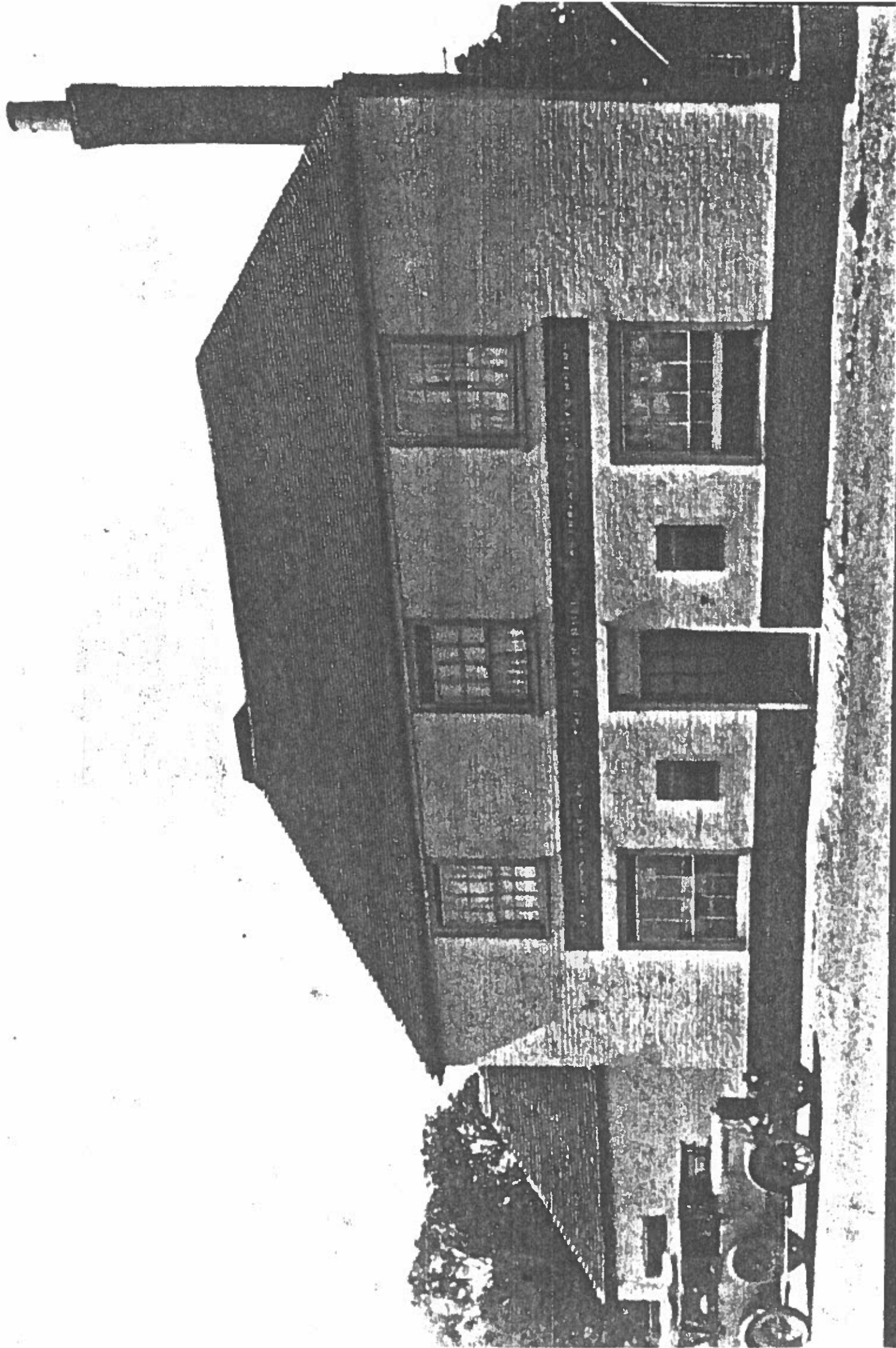


The Black Bull
Newchurch

From 1711

Researched by M.G. Lilley
64 Stade Street
Hythe
Kent
CT216BD

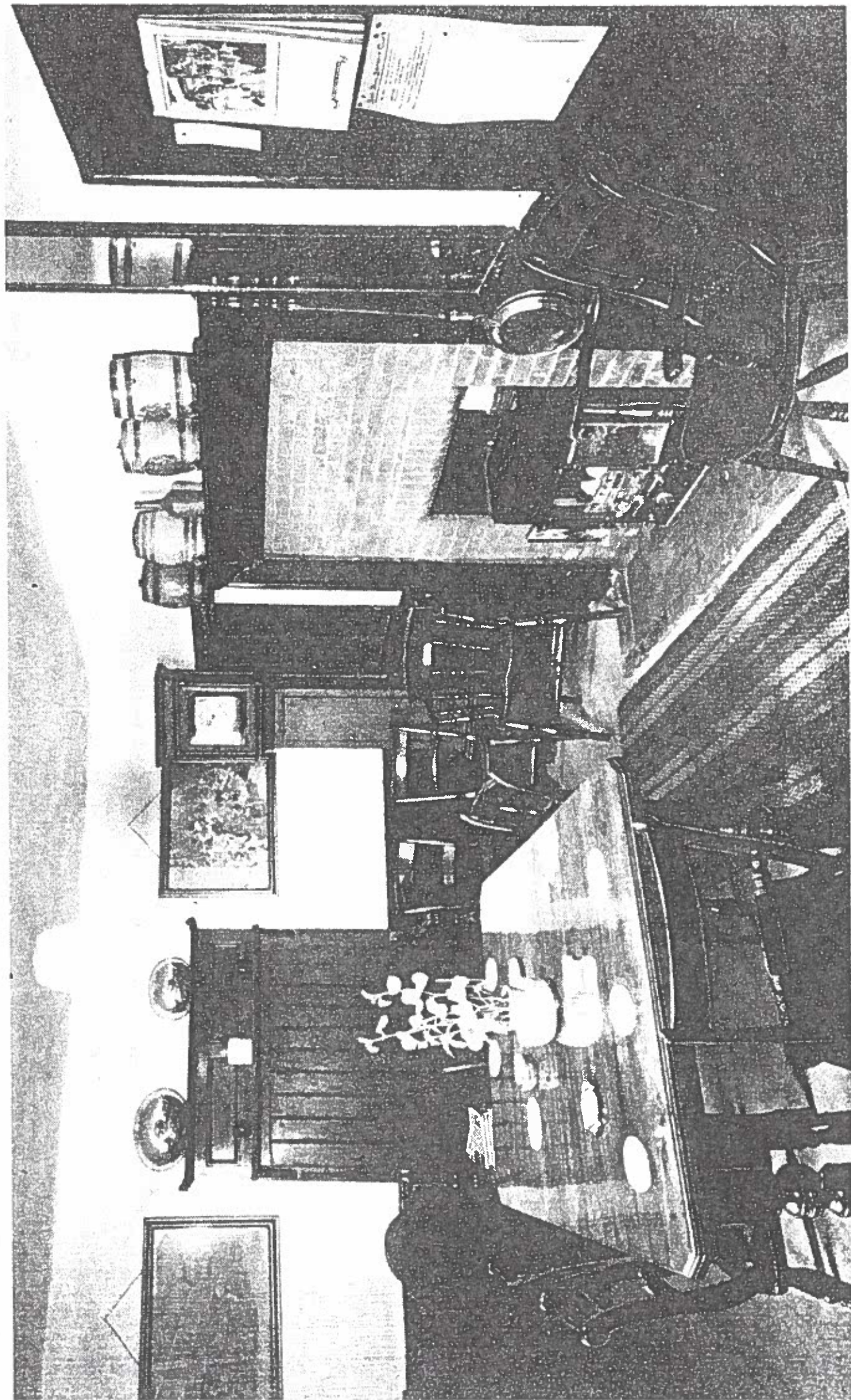




At the *Black Bull*, Newchurch, the old four-ale bar has Doulton spirit jars, bearing the Royal Arms, on the mantelpiece.

In the serving bar, a sporting gun jostles with an oil stove and the old blue and white quart measures. Here all beer is drawn from the wood.

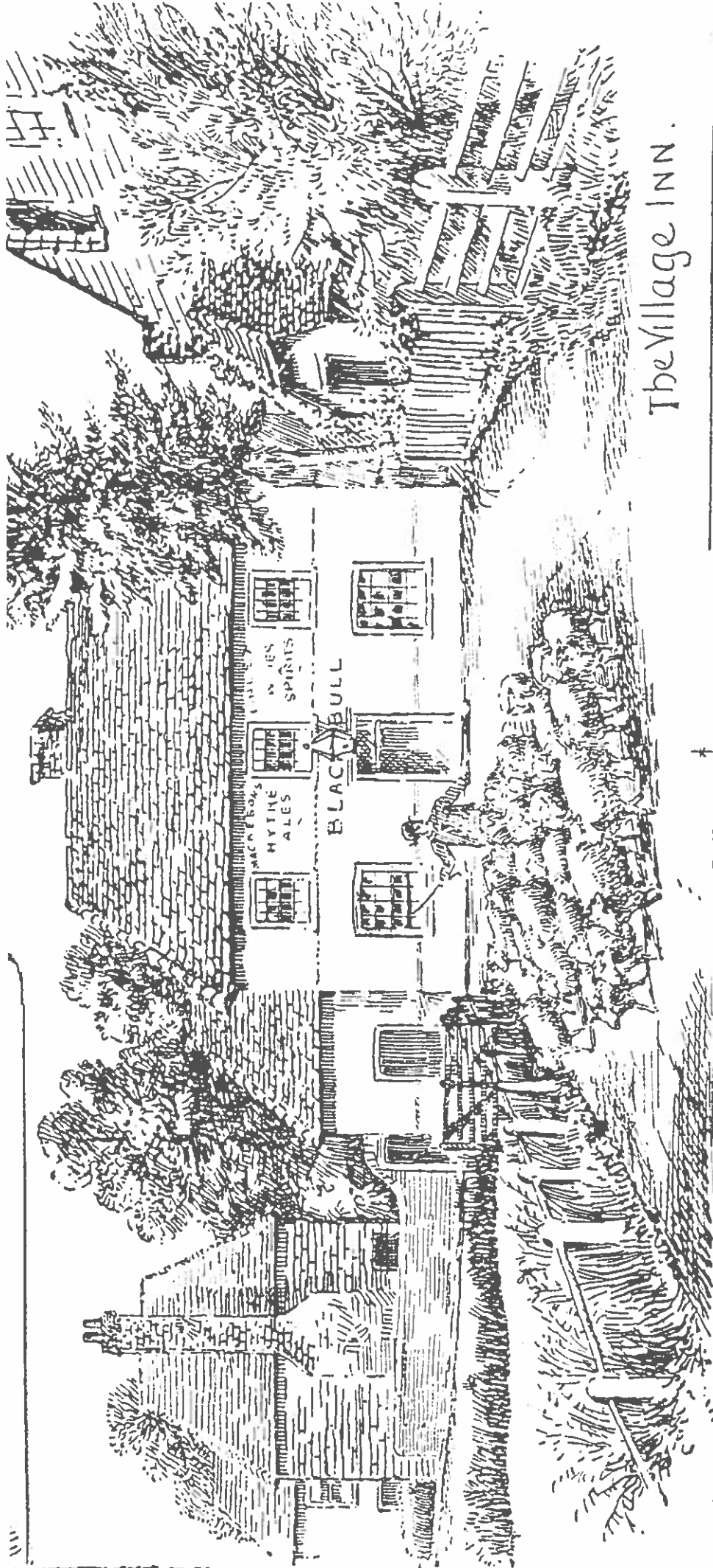




AT THE BLACK BULL NEW CHURCH, THE OLD FOUR-ALE BAR HAS DOULTON SPIRIT JARS, BEARING THE ROYAL ARMS, ON THE MANTLEPIECE.

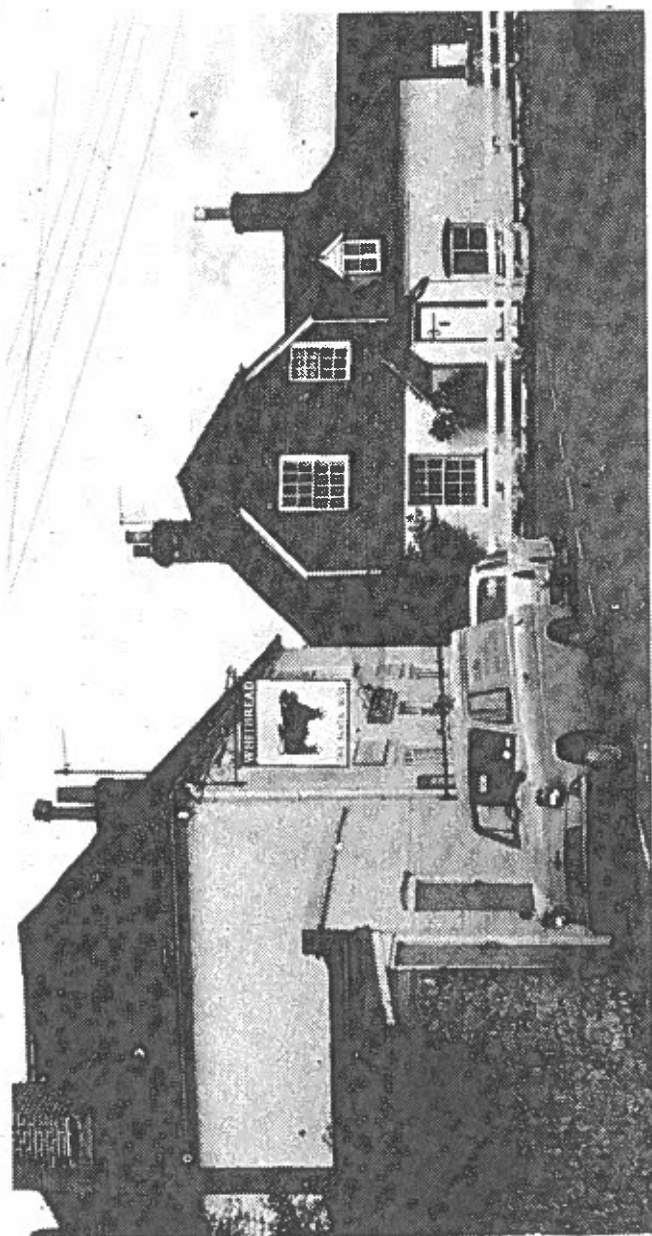


IN THE SERVING BAR, A SPORTING GUN JOSTLES WITH AN OIL STOVE AND
THE OLD BLUE & WHITE QUART MEASURES. HERE ALL THE BEER IS DRAWN
FROM THE WOOD.



The Village Inn.





1972.

THE BLACK BULL

AT NEWCHURCH ROMNEY MARSH

List of Inn-holders

- 1711 Richard Standish
- 1712 Richard Standish
- 1713 Richard Standish
- 1714 Georgino Gorham
- 1715 Georgino Gorham
- 1716 Georgino Gorham It appears at this time the name of the Inn was The Ship
- 1717 Georgino Gorham Change of name to The Maypole
- 1718 Georgino Gorham
- 1719 Georgino Gorham
- 1720 Georgino Gorham
- 1721 Georgino Gorham
- 1722 Georgino Gorham
- 1723 Thomas Walker
- 1724
- 1725
- 1726
- 1727
- 1728 Nicholas Jarrett
- 1729 Nicholas Jarrett
- 1730 Nicholas Jarrett
- 1731 Anna Jarrett
- 1732 Anna Jarrett Change of name again to The Bell
- 1733 Anna Jarrett
- 1734 Anna Jarrett
- 1735 Richard Simpson
- 1735 Richard Simpson
- 1736 Richard Simpson
- Then no trace of any Inn-holder until
- 1772 John Castle Change of name to Shepherd & Lamb
- 1773 John Castle Change of name to The Black Bull
- 1774 John Castle
- 1775 John Castle
- 1776 John Castle
- 1777 John Castle
- 1778 John Castle
- 1779 John Castle
- 1780 John Castle
- 1781 John Castle
- Then no trace of Inn-holder until
- 1784 Matthew Butler
- 1785 Matthew Butler
- 1786
- 1787 Michael Collyer
- 1788 Michael Collyer
- 1789 Michael Collyer
- 1790

1791 Michael Collyer was Inn-holder until 1822
No trace of Inn-holder until
1843 Edward Ovenden
1844 Edward Ovenden
1845 Edward Ovenden
1846 Edward Ovenden
1847 Edward Ovenden
1848 Edward Ovenden
1849 Edward Ovenden
1850 Edward Ovenden
1851 Edward Ovenden
1852 Henry Ovenden
1853
1854
1855 George Ovenden
1856 George Ovenden
1857 George Ovenden
1858 George Ovenden
1859 George Henry Ovenden
1860
1861
1861 John Fancett
1862 John Fancett
1863 John Fancett
1864 John Fancett
1865 John Fancett
1866 John Fancett
1867 John Fancett
1868 John Fancett
1869 John Fancett
1870 John Fancett
1871 John Fancett
1872 John Fancett
1873 John Fancett
1874 John Fancett
1875 John Fancett
1876 John Fancett
1877 John Fancett
1878 John Fancett & Farmer
1879
1880
1881
1882 John Thomas Smith
1883 John Thomas Smith
1884 John Thomas Smith
1885 John Thomas Smith
1886 John Thomas Smith
1887 John Thomas Smith
1888 John Thomas Smith

1889 John Thomas Smith
1890 John Thomas Smith
1891 John Thomas Smith
1892
1893
1894
1895 John Frederick Milton
1896
1897
1898
1899
1900
1901
1902
1903 Walter Broad
1904
1905 Edward Broad
1906 Edward Broad
1907 Edward Broad
1908 Edward Broad
1909 Edward Broad
1910 Edward Broad
1911 Edward Broad
1912 Edward Broad
1913 Edward Broad
1914 Edward Broad
1915 Edward Broad
1916 Edward Broad
1917 Edward Broad
1918 Edward Broad
1919 Edward Broad
1920 Edward Broad
1921 Edward Broad
1922 Edward Broad
1923 Edward Broad
1924 Edward Broad
1925 Edward Broad
1926 Edward Broad
1927 Edward Broad
1928 Edward Broad
1929 Edward Broad
1930 Edward Broad
1931 Edward Broad
1932 Edward Broad
1933 Edward Broad
1934 Edward Broad
1935 Edward Broad
1936 Edward Broad
1937 Edward Broad
1938 Edward Broad

Extract from The Gift of The Sea

The local inn The Black Bull is a real village inn, peacefully apart from the bustle of the village, where famous actors and actresses found a haven of peace. When they could escape from their London commitments during the last war.

The other great sport of Romney Marsh is hare hunting, the activities of the John Jones Coursing Club. In the Bull Inn Newchurch is a framed photograph of the members of the John Jones Coursing Club with their founder, John Jones himself, this was presented by the members to him in 1893, as merit of their respect and esteem.

Extract from the Pubs of Romney Marsh

The Black Bull is a marvellous old building, reputed to be over 370 years old, records indicate it was originally built as coach house and stables. It was used by "baggers" travelling traders who stayed overnight and left their ponies while they sold their wares locally. The huge beamed hall at the back was once used for wool trading. During the last war village dances were held in it for Land Army girls and servicemen stationed in the area.

The pub also of course was the haunt of Romney Marsh smugglers the pub used to have a reproduction of a lamp which was called a strawberry lamp a pink tinted lantern which was put in the window to warn them that Custom and Excise Officers were in the area.

Ghosts

There has been ghostly footsteps heard at night travelling round the bedroom wall, but curiously seeming to come from about three feet off the floor. Mind you the manner of death of a previous landlord you might think could have left his ghost wandering the place. It happened in the 1900's and he apparently fell down the well at the rear of the pub, probably after having one to many. The local doctor hurried over on a donkey he used in those days but the man was dead by then. The well is boarded over these days.

In 1821 the freehold value of the property was £700

1824

Court Case The Bull public house 20th August 1824

Jane Ashman the wife of Thomas Ashman of Brabourne in Kent Labourer, upon oath that on Saturday evening last about the hour of 10 o'clock, as she was coming out of The Bull public house in Newchurch accompanied by her husband, and upon going back again to take her daughters part who was stopped by a mob of noisy men in the house, she was accosted and assaulted and beaten and two of her teeth knocked out by one of them named John Harris with his fist. And upon her husbands endeavouring to interfere he said he would do the same to him if he did not hold his tongue for that they were Pikeys, and he would not be driven by them, if he could have his way he would have them all murdered.

Inquisitions held at The Black Bull

4th February 1766

John Winden deceased

John Winden having been at Ashford in the said county on Saturday the first day of this instant February, upon his return home in the evening of the same day, being then alone, on foot and somewhat intoxicated with liquor, and the weather very dark. The deceased by some means or another fell into a ditch in the parish of Bilsington within the liberty of the said marsh and was there found the next day drowned.

Verdict : *Death by accidental drowning*

7th August 1766

Daniel Edwards deceased

The deceased went away on horseback from the dwelling house of Thomas Tersy situate in the parish of Newchurch aforesaid, on Tuesday the fifth day of this instant August, about eight of the clock in the evening of the same day, seemingly in good health. And has not been heard of since the Wednesday last the sixth day of this instant August. When his body was found in a certain Sewer or Ditch adjoining the Kings High Road leading from Newchurch aforesaid to Ivychurch in the said Marsh and a certain field commonly called or known by the name of Cobbs Place and there the said jurors say. That the death of the said Daniel Edwards, was accidental and not otherwise.

24th March 1786

Notice to Michael Collyer with regard to forming a jury for the forthcoming inquisition.

To: Michael Collyer Constable of the lower half hundred of Newchurch.

This is to command you, on sight hereof to summon and warn twelve good and lawful men of your half hundred. To be and appear at the house of Matthew Butler known by the name or sign of The Black Bull, in the parish of Newchurch aforesaid the 24th day of March at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. And then and there to do and execute all such things as shall be given to them.

24th March 1786

William Dane deceased

The said William Dane on the 20th day of this instant March in the parish aforesaid being intoxicated with liquor fell into a certain ditch in the parish aforesaid. Then and there being he the said William Dane accidentally, casually and by misfortune fell and in the water thereof was then and there suffocated and drowned. Of which suffocation and drowning the said William Dane then and there died.

Verdict: *Accidental Death*

Romney Marsh
in Kent, to wit.

An Inquisition

indented, taken for our Sovereign ^{Lady Queen} ~~Lord~~ the King, at the
House of *William Hoakes* known by the Sign of the
Bull in the Parish of *Newchurch* within

the Liberty of Romney Marsh in the County of Kent, the *fifteenth* day of *February*
in the *fourth* Year of the Reign of our Sovereign ^{Lady Queen} ~~Lord~~ *George the Fourth*, by the Grace of God
of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, and in the Year of
our Lord One thousand eight hundred and *forty one* BEFORE *Archibald Hoakes*

Esquire, one of the Coroners of our said ^{Lady Queen} ~~Lord~~ the King for the said Marsh, on View of the Body of
John Conchman then and there lying dead, upon the Oath of *the parish of*
Beckings in the said Marsh upon the Oath of *William*
Piddelladen, Foreman, Henry Overden, John Seaman, Richard
Richardson, James Rogers, John Collyer the Elder, John Collyer
the younger, John Cole, James Head, William Hoakes, William
Collyer and Edward Collyer
good and lawful Men of the said Marsh, duly chosen, and who being then and there duly sworn, and charged
to enquire for our said Sovereign ^{Lady Queen} ~~Lord~~ the King, when, how and by what means, the said *John*
Conchman came to his Death, do, upon their Oaths say, that the said *John*

Conchman on the *eleventh* day of *February* in the year aforesaid
at the parish of *Bilsington* in the Liberty of *Romney Marsh*
aforesaid, to wit, in a certain field there occupied by *William*
Green was found dead, that the said *John Conchman* had
no marks of Violence appearing on his body, but how or by
what means he came to his death no Evidence thereof does
appear to the said Jurors -

to Hoakes
over

and so the Jurors aforesaid, upon their Oath aforesaid, do say that the said *John Conchman*
in manner and by the means aforesaid

In Witness

whereof as well the said Coroner as the Jurors aforesaid have hereunto set and
subscribed their Hands and Seals, the day and year first above written.

John Piddelladen
Henry Overden
James Rogers
Richard Richardson

James Rogers
The Oath and Seal
of *John Collyer the Elder*
John Collyer
The Oath and Seal
of *John & Cole*

James Head
William Hoakes
Archibald Hoakes
The Oath and Seal of
Edward Collyer

19th June 1783

Thomas Court deceased

Thomas Court being intoxicated with liquor in a certain ditch in the aforesaid parish of Newchurch. Then and there being the said Thomas Court accidentally, casually and by misfortune fell into the said ditch and in the water thereof was then and there drowned and suffocated.

Verdict: *Accidental death*

19th February 1794

Jacob Watson *deceased*

John Page, late of the parish of Brenzett, in the county and Marsh aforesaid Waggoner. On the seventeenth day of this instant month of February in the year aforesaid at the parish and in the Marsh aforesaid in a certain public street or highway there called the Kings Highway leading from Newchurch aforesaid to Ivychurch in the Marsh aforesaid. Being negligently owing to his being in a state of intoxication driving a certain team or wagon belonging to his master Joseph Coveney, drawn by four horses and loaded with twelve sacks of peas. So near or close to a public ditch or sewer, which is within the said parish of Newchurch, and which said sewer divides the said road from a certain, field or piece of marshland belonging to Mr Wills. That the said wagon by the heaviness of it's burden aforesaid upon the top of which the said Jacob Watson as being the waggoners mate was carelessly lying was accidentally casually and by misfortune overturned and thrown or forced into the said ditch or sewer. And that Jacob Watson by such overturning, fell with such force on the other side of the sewer or ditch adjoining the said field, underneath the said heavy burden and wagon. And there being water and mud of the depth of four feet and upwards in the said sewer, the said Jacob Watson from the weight and presence of the said wagon, so loaded and overturned as aforesaid upon him. In the said ditch or sewer was unable to move or get out of the same. By which means he was drowned and suffocated by water and mud, and so the Jurors aforesaid upon their oath say that Jacob Watson in manner and by the means accidentally casually and by misfortune came to his death.

14th April 1801

Joshua Marden *deceased*

The said Joshua Marden on the 13th day of April in the year 1801 at the parish of Newchurch aforesaid, in the jurisdiction and county aforesaid to wit in a certain ditch was found dead. That he was late in the evening of the 12th of the same April in his way coming home from Dymchurch, in the said Bailwick to Newchurch aforesaid. And that being much given to intoxication and it appears he was in that state almost throughout the said 12th April. The Jurors believe in consequence thereof that the said Joshua Marden accidentally fell into the said ditch covered with water and was suffocated and drowned of which suffocation and drowning he then and there died.

Session Papers 1825

Be it remembered that on the third day of March in the year of our Lord 1825, at Newhall in Dymchurch in the said Marsh. Archibald Stokes, constable of the lower hundred of Newchurch in the said Marsh who prosecutes as well, for our sovereign lord the King as for himself. In this behalf in his proper person comes before us two of his Majesty's Justice's of the peace, in and for the same Marsh, and on his oath gives us the said two Justice's to understand and be informed that Michael Collyer of the parish of Newchurch in the said Marsh being an Ale House keeper, Victualler and retailer of Ale and Beer, did in his house at Newchurch aforesaid, on the second day of this instant March, knowingly suffer Gaming and Cards by Labourers contrary to an act passed in the third year of the reign of King George the 4th. An act for amending the laws for regulating the means of licensing Alehouses in that part of The United Kingdom called England. And for more effectually preventing disorder therein. Whereby and by force of the said statute the said Michael Collyer has forfeited the sum of £5 being his first offence.

1834

7th July 1834

Daniel Luckhurst says that on Saturday night last the 5th instant. I was called upon by the landlady of the public house in Newchurch aforesaid to come in my capacity as Boorsholder (like our special constables of today) and keep order in her house. And on my speaking to John Collyer the younger who was standing at the door of the said public house and begging him to go home, and he cursed, he made use of abusive language and struck me a blow on the head. And on my attempting to take him into custody his mother Mary Collyer came out of the house and struck me several times, using great abuse, and threatening against William Archibold Stokes and me. And prevented me taking him the said John Collyer. I therefore pray justice may be done in the premises.

Newchurch Census 1851

Henry Ovenden	age 49 Married Innkeeper	born River Kent
Susanah	age 48 Wife	born Canterbury
George	age 18 Son single Agriculture Labourer	born Newchurch
Henry	age 14 Son Scholar	born Newchurch
Charles	age 12 Son Scholar	born Newchurch
William	age 10 Son Scholar	born Newchurch

Newchurch Census 1861

John Fancett	age 34 Married Innkeeper
Elizabeth Fancett	age 35 Wife
Mary Fancett	age 5 Daughter Scholar
Elizabeth Fancett	age 1 Daughter

2nd August 1830

Thomas Coleman infant *deceased*

John Cole sworn:

I am a labourer and reside in the said parish of Newchurch. I left my house about four o'clock yesterday afternoon the first instant. And the deceased was then indoors, I returned in about one hour and the child being missing, I made a search and found him in the sewer under the bridge about seven yards from my house. I got him out but he was quite dead.

Verdict: Accidental death from drowning

1st March 1832

William Rogers *deceased*

William Rogers on the 29th February 1832 at the parish of Bilsington in the Liberty of Romany Marsh aforesaid being riding on the near side of the Oyster of a certain wagon drawn by eight bullocks, and loaded with Faggots, in the public road leading from Bilsington to Newchurch aforesaid. It so happened that the said William Rogers then and there accidentally, casually and by misfortune fell to the ground from off the said Oyster into the said road, near unto the rear forewheel of the said wagon. Did then and there receive one mortal bruise on his said head of which said mortal bruise he the said William Rogers then and there instantly died.

Verdict: Accidental Death

21st March 1836

William Allen *deceased*

William Allen on the 19th March 1836 at the parish of Newchurch within the Liberty of Romney Marsh aforesaid, being employed at the threshing machine of one Archibald Stokes. It so happened that the deceased then and there accidentally, casually and by misfortune fell and was caught under the spindle of the said machine. By means whereof the said William Allen did then and there accidentally, casually and by misfortune receive one mortal bruise in and upon his left breast, of which said mortal bruise the said William Allen then and there instantly died.

Verdict; Accidental death

13th February 1841

John Couchman *deceased*

Susannah Pearson Singlewoman Sworn:

I have lived with the deceased for about seven years last past, and travelling about the country. Lodging and sleeping in a tent, the deceased was a Shoemaker by trade and belonged to the parish of Brenchley in Kent. On Sunday night last we slept in our tent near the Millbank Farm on the road leading from there to Ruckinge. The deceased had a fit of apoplexy about three week's back, and has not been well since. He left the tent on Tuesday morning last between nine and ten o'clock for the purpose of getting some old wood, and I did not afterwards see him alive. He said he should go in a field going down to Mr Green's. I have seen him twice since he has been dead. I made no enquiry after him on Tuesday, but as he did not come back that night, I told Michael

Collyer on Wednesday forenoon, that he the deceased has not come back, and where he said he was going after the bushes.

Jesse Tolhurst Sworn:

I am a looker and live in the parish of Ruckinge in Romney Marsh, on Tuesday morning last the month instant. I saw the deceased near my house. I said "good morning John" and he said "good morning it is very cold" he was going in the direction of Mr Green's. I have known the deceased some years. I saw him no more that day, but on Thursday last the 11th instant I found the deceased in a field of Wiilliam Green of Lydd in the parish of Bilsington in Romney Marsh, lying on his face, not far from the ditch. And near him were some potatoes, I believe were given to him by my wife on Tuesday evening. The deceased was quite dead, he was afterwards removed to the nearest building by myself and others. Which was my lodge and there the body now is. There are a few scratch's about his face and his hands, and his left cheek was indented, which I think was caused by a fall and lying on it. There was no appearance of any other marks about the body, or that violence had been used on him. It was between one and two in the afternoon when I found the deceased.

Verdict; Accidental death

26th August 1843

Emily Ovenden *deceased*

Henry Ovenden Sworn:

I reside at Newchurch and am the father of the deceased Emily Ovenden, who is four months old. She was put to bed about half past ten last night apparently well. She was alive about two o'clock this morning and about quarter of an hour after she was deceased and appeared dead and cold. She was laying quite free and encumbered, I requested that the child might not be moved till Mr Wood the Surgeon had seen it.

Verdict: Natural causes

29th August 1843

Sarah Waller *deceased*

The wife of Jacob Waller labourer, on the twenty- eighth day of August in 1843 and for a long time before, at the parish of Newchurch, did labour and languish under a grievous disease of body. To wit, an Asthma, and on the said 28th August in 1843, the said Sarah Waller departed this life by the visitation of God.

Verdict: Natural causes

6th December 1843

Mary Fowler *deceased*

Archibald Stoakes the younger Sworn :

Between seven and eight this morning, on my return from the farm, I found the deceased standing in front of the fire. I had just entered the room when she said "oh dear" and fell on the floor and died directly. I called to a servant Osbourne who assisted me in removing the deceased into another room, the deceased has not been well for sometime past.

Verdict : Natural causes

9th December 1845

Sarah Cole Sworn:

I have been attending the deceased from about Michaelmas last, she has been unwell for sometime past. Last Thursday night she was taken worse, on Friday she was ver ill, on Saturday night I sat up with her all night. On Sunday morning I gave her two teaspoonfuls and a half of salts. The deceased went to bed about six o'clock on Sunday night. I went to bed in about half an hour from afterwards. She spoke to me several times after I went to bed, I awoke about a quarter past eight from the deceased arm laying on me. She was then dead and she was quite cold and stiff. I then called her father who came across and took the deceased arm off me and I got up.

Verdict: Natural causes

12th December 1845

Ann Whitehead deceased

Sophie Whitehead Sworn:

I am a widow and live in the parish of Newchurch. The deceased child is mine, and is nine months old. I suckled the child at two o'clock yesterday morning, it appeared very well then about half past seven one of my other children George Whitehead aged nine years who was in bed with the deceased called and said the baby was so cold. I went directly and found it was dead. She was laying on her back, I immediately called in Mr Hall a neighbour. I had perceived the child ill previously excepting from thrush.

Verdict: Natural causes

20th August 1847

James Harris deceased

Elizabeth Harris, wife of James Harris of the parish of Bilsington, in the county of Kent Labourer. Sworn:

The deceased is my son and is eight years old, this morning about twelve o'clock, I sent the deceased to a pond of water, in an adjoining field to one where I was at work harvesting for a bottle of water. And the deceased being younger than I thought necessary, I sent my daughter Ellen about fourteen to see for him. When she came to the pond I heard her scream, and I then ran to the place and found the deceased in the pond with his head under the water. I plunged into the water and caught him up, he appeared to be quite dead. A young man Charles Butcher came up and took him out of my arms, we conveyed him to the nearest house without success. He was about quarter of an hour away when I sent my daughter to look for him. I cautioned him, how he got near the water. I believe the field in which the pond is situate is called Sheep House field in the occupation of George Packham in Newchurch, he was quite under water. There was a great deal of water in the pond.

Verdict; Accidental death

4th July 1850

Ann Caroline Ovenden deceased

Walter Ovenden Sworn:

I am a labourer and live at Newchurch, the deceased is the illegitimate child of my daughter Susannah Ovenden singlewomen, and is about four months old. I went to bed soon after nine o'clock last night. The deceased was then in same bed with it's

mother in my bedroom, about three o'clock this morning I awoke and got up and put the light out, deceased was still alive and apparently as well as she was when I saw her on going to bed. She was awake, I then went to bed again and got up again about half past four, when I found the child was dead. It was laying in the arms of it's mother and so it was when I saw it alive about three o'clock. I had some difficulty in persuading my daughter the child was dead. The child had been subject to the thrush pretty much ever since its birth. Last Tuesday Mr Woods's assistant saw the child recommended some magnesia being given to it, which has been.

Verdict: By the visitation of god

5th July 1850

Matthias Tookey *deceased*

Thomas Tookey Sworn:

I am a labourer and at present living in Newchurch, between nine and ten o'clock this morning I was employed as a labourer in repairing the tower of Newchurch church. Deceased was also employed there as a Bricklayer. The last time I saw the deceased alive he was standing in the inside of the cradle, which at the time was three part of the way up the tower. I asked if he wanted any more mortar, he said he should do so very soon. I then took a pail to go to the mortar lump on the opposite side of the church. I heard a noise on which I ran back and found the cradle hanging by one rope, having ran down eight or ten feet, and the deceased laying in the gutter alongside the church. I think the deceased was stone dead, he never spoke afterwards. Deceased was shortly afterwards removed to the schoolroom, before deceased was removed I found a large wound on the back part of his head. Deceased always fastened the ropes himself. I twice cautioned deceased this morning about having the ropes properly fastened.

Verdict: Accidental death

15TH February 1853

Thomas Burchett *deceased*

Elizabeth Burchett on her oath saith:

I am the wife of George Burchett and reside in the parish of Newchurch. The deceased Thomas Burchett is my son. Between five and six o'clock last Tuesday evening, I was nursing the deceased in my lap and I put him down on the floor in front of the fire, to cut the other children some vituals. I had scarcely left him when I turned round and saw him with his mouth to the spout of the tea kettle, which stood on the hob of the stove. The water in the kettle was boiling. I took him immediately up in my arms, he cried for a minute or two and I took him into my neighbour Mrs Laws. I looked in his mouth and could not see anything the matter with it. I sent for Mr Woods who came and saw him while he was alive. He died on Wednesday night last about six o'clock.

Verdict: Accidental death

4th March 1853

Fanny Lambert *deceased*

Sarah Cole of the parish of Newchurch singlewoman sworn:

Saith I am the mother of the deceased who died yesterday about one o'clock in the afternoon. The deceased has been ill with a cold a fortnight or three weeks, on Wednesday evening about eight o'clock the deceased being worse I sent for Mr Roberts surgeon New Romney to come and attend the deceased. He did not see the child but prescribed medicine and a blister for it. The medicine was given as soon as I got it, and the blister was put on the chest as directed by Mr Roberts about nine-yesterday morning. Mr Roberts did not see the child whilst living. I was with the little child when it died, the deceased was eighteen months old,

Verdict: Death by natural causes

5th March 1853

Elizabeth Franks *deceased*

Mary Ann Franks, wife of William Franks of Newchurch labourer sworn;

The deceased Elizabeth Franks is the widow of Edward Franks and was 65 years of age. She lived with myself and husband for the last few weeks, and had suffered very much from a cold and cough. She appeared better yesterday morning and was up about five o'clock and took her breakfast as usual, and went to lay down again about nine. I came up a little after ten for a little brandy for the deceased, and when I returned soon afterwards about eleven, I found her in bed quite dead, and with her clothes on and in the same position.

Verdict: Death by natural causes

26th March 1853

Jesse Hatch *deceased*

Henry Benjeman Wood sworn;

I am the surgeon of New Romney, the deceased was in the Romney Marsh workhouse from about the 26th February last to 8th instant. I attended him with Intermittent Fever and Influenza. He left the workhouse of his own accord and was considered as well as he usually had been, but being subject to cough. I have not seen the deceased since till this morning, and from the information I have received I am of the opinion that the deceased died from the rupture of a blood vessel near the heart.

Verdict: Death by natural causes

2nd July 1853

Sarah Elizabeth Worrell *deceased*

Harriet the wife of William Henry Worrell of Newchurch labourer sworn;

I am the mother of the deceased. On Tuesday evening last the deceased was frightened by the dog of one of the travelling people that came to my door. And about three o'clock the following morning her inside took a working and she retched very much. And about twelve o'clock on Wednesday I gave the deceased half a bilious pill which she threw up immediately, and at half past six I gave her half a teaspoonful of

tincture of rhubarb, which she also threw up. About nine o'clock I put her in a warm bath and she appeared better, but in about an hour later she became convulsed, and so continued till about two hours of her death. She died about quarter before five yesterday morning, deceased was between two and three years old.

Verdict: Death by natural causes

Verdict: Death by natural causes

26th March 1853

Jesse Hatch *deceased*

Henry Benjeman Wood sworn;

I am the surgeon of New Romney, the deceased was in the Romney Marsh workhouse from about the 26th February last to 8th instant. I attended him with Intermittent Fever and Influenza. He left the workhouse of his own accord and was considered as well as he usually had been, but being subject to cough. I have not seen the deceased since till this morning, and from the information I have received I am of the opinion that the deceased died from the rupture of a blood vessel near the heart.

Verdict: Death by natural causes

2nd July 1853

Sarah Elizabeth Worrell *deceased*

Harriet the wife of William Henry Worrell of Newchurch labourer sworn;

I am the mother of the deceased. On Tuesday evening last the deceased was frightened by the dog of one of the travelling people that came to my door. And about three o'clock the following morning her inside took a working and she retched very much. And about twelve o'clock on Wednesday I gave the deceased half a bilious pill which she threw up immediately, and at half past six I gave her half a teaspoonful of tincture of rhubarb, which she also threw up. About nine o'clock I put her in a warm bath and she appeared better, but in about an hour later she became convulsed, and so continued till about two hours of her death. She died about quarter before five yesterday morning, deceased was between two and three years old.

Verdict: Death by natural causes

Chamberlains Accounts 1808

There is a bill for £2 2s paid to Michael Collyer for the General Sessions Licensing day 22nd October 1808. A photo stat copy is enclosed. At this time Michael Collyer was landlord of The Black Bull.

Newchurch 22nd Oct. 1807
 S. Chamberlain Dinner - - £ 5. 0
 Wine - - - - 0. 15. 0
 Port - - - - 0. 1. 0
 Sugar Lemon Ye 0. 2. 0
 Howard's Dinner 0. 9. 0
 Tho. Burrell Dinner 0. 1. 0
 £ 1. 19. 0
 Tobacco - - - - 0. 0. 6
 £ 1. 19. 6
 2. 6
 2. 2. 0

THIS REFERS TO CHAMBERLAIN'S BILL
 FOR GENERAL LICENSING DAY HELD
 AT BLACK BULL 22/10/1808



Liberty of Romney
Marsh in Kent
to wit,

Informations of Witnesses taken on oath
this fourth — day of March — 1853
at the Black Bull Inn
in the parish of Mavechurch
within the said Liberty of Romney Marsh
Before Arthur and Stouckes, Esquire
One of the Coroners for our Sovereign Lady the
Queen for the said Liberty touching the death
of Fanny Lambert Cole . . . lying dead —
in the said parish. 1-

Sarah Cole of the parish of Mavechurch
Singlewoman, sworn, deposes, saith

I am the mother of the deceased
who died yesterday about one o'clock
in the afternoon, the deceased had
been ill with a cold a fortnight or
three weeks, on Wednesday evening
about eight o'clock, the deceased being
worse, I sent for Mr Roberts Surgeon
New Romney to come and attend
the deceased, he did not see the
child but prescribed medicine and
a blister for it, the medicine was
given as soon as I got it, and the
blister was put on the chest as
directed by Mr Roberts about nine
yesterday morning, Mr Roberts did
not see the child whilst living, I was
with the child when it died - the
deceased was eighteen months old -

Sarah Cole.

John Thomas Roberts of
New Romney Surgeon, sworn,
saith, On Wednesday night last
between ten and eleven o'clock I
was sent for and requested to attend
the deceased, I could not attend in
consequence of some Midwifery
engagements, but prescribed, from
the statements made to me by the
family who came as to the situation
of the child, the child I have no
doubt was then suffering from the
last stage of Inflammation of the
Lungs aggravated by teething, I have
examined the child since death
externally, and have not any
doubt but that the child died
from Inflammation of the Lungs
aggravated by teething.

John Thomas Roberts

The foregoing depositions
were severally taken and
sworn the said 4th day
of March 1853. Before me

Arch^d Stokes Coroner

John Thomas Roberts surgeon of New Romney, sworn

Saith on Wednesday night last between ten and eleven o'clock I was sent for and requested to attend the deceased, I could not attend in consequence of some midwifery engagements, but prescribed from the *** made to me by the ** who came as to the situation of the child, the child I have no doubt was then suffering from the last stage of Inflammation of the lungs aggravated by teething, I have examined the child since death externally, and I have not any doubt but that the child died from Inflammation of the Lungs exaggerated by teething.

Newchurch Census 1871

John Fancett	age 44 Married Innkeeper
Mary A Fancett	age 38 Wife
Julia Fancett	age 14 Daughter

Newchurch Census 1881

John Thomas Smith	age 25 Married Innkeeper
Julia Smith	age 24 Wife
Charles Thomas	age 1 Son

Newchurch Census 1891

John Thomas Smith	age 35 Married Innkeeper
Mary Lavinia Smith	age 37 Wife
Charles Thomas Smith	age 11 Son Scholar
Frederick Smith	age 8 Son Scholar

Listed Building details

Grade 2

Public House late 18th or early 19th century painted brick with plain tile roof. Two storeys with plain brick eaves band. Hipped roof hips returning to right and left. Rear stack to left and slender stack to right gable end. Regular three windows front of 16 panes bar sashes in open boxes. Eight-piece ground floor windows. Central half-glazed door with rectangular fanlight. Interior not inspected.

Inns of Kent 1948

Extract

Newchurch is just another Marsh village, and The Bull Inn is just another clean pleasant inn, reputedly built from ship's timbers and at least a real inn and not a figment of the imagination.

Kent Life August 1963

By Peter Gurr

A Village Eccentric (an extract)

Barney Cole lived in Newchurch, Romney Marsh. He was eccentric, and his eccentricities were used by the youth of the village as a base whereon to build stories of the wildest improbability.

Our earliest recollection of him was as a rock-breaker. Traction engines brought rock from Aldington quarries to be stacked in cords by the roadside, to be broken down by men past heavier and more active work.

This was Barney's job. The equipment was simple. A sledgehammer for the first initial break and one or two smaller hammers to finish, a bag of straw to sit on and a piece of leather to protect the finger tips, a refinement being a pair of wire gauze goggles to protect the eyes from flying chips of rock.

Barney was an individualist in every way. One idea he staunchly maintained. May was a treacherous month, the only time of the year he wore overcoat and gloves, and he would wear them through days of scorching sunshine when other men were gladly shedding every possible garment.

His dress was remarkable. The headgear was a fur or astrakhan effort like a woman's toque. Rumour had it he bought sixteen of these for sixpence when he was young. At the age of sixty he was wearing the second, number one only being used for rougher occasions. There were several layers of voluminous jackets and sleeved waistcoats, a narrow black and white plaid scarf and the outfit was completed by an enormous pair of corduroy trousers, supported below the knee by straps known as Yorks.

Cole was famous for these trousers. They were several sizes too large and for some reason with may have been connected with trying to sit comfortably all day on unyielding rock they were slung low, and seen from behind as he stood erect the seat would appear to be behind his knees. Whatever the reason it gave scope for conjecture among the youths.

The first yarn we heard of Barney told how he left the Black Bull one night and had just arrived home. Reaching out for his door latch he was pulled to a halt. Feeling behind to discover the reason he found he had shut his trousers in the pub door and had to retrace his steps to release himself.

Rate Book Newchurch 17th January 1877

Tenant	Owner	Description	Area	Rent	R/V	Rate
John Fancett	H.B. Mackenson	house/new room/garden	36 perches	£15	£12	1/- in the £
3 rd July 1877						
John Fancett	H.B. Mackenson	house/new room/garden	36 perches	£15	£12	1s2d in the £
5 th January 1878						
John Fancett	H.B. Mackenson	house/new room/garden	36 perches	£15	£12	1s2d in the £
3 rd July 1878						
John Thomas Smith	H.B. Mackenson	house/new room/ garden	36 perches	£15	£12	1s2d in the £
1 st January 1879						
John Thomas Smith	H.B. Mackenson	house/new room/garden	36 perches	£15	£12	1s2d in the £
2 nd July 1879						
John Thomas Smith	H.B. Mackenson	house/new room/garden	36 perches	£15	£12	1s2d in the £
7 th January 1880						
John Thomas Smith	H.B. Mackenson	house/new room/garden	36 perches	£15	£12	1s in the £

4th August 1880

John Thomas Smith H.B. Mackenson house/new room/garden 36 perches £15 £12 10d in the £

5th January 1881

John Thomas Smith H.B. Mackenson house/new room/garden 36 perches £15 £12 10d in the £

6th July 1881

John Thomas Smith H.B. Mackenson house/new room/garden 36 perches £15 £12 8d in the

7th December 1881

John Thomas Smith H.B. Mackenson house/new room/garden 36 perches £15 £12 10d in the £

7th June 1882

John Thomas Smith H.B. Mackenson house/new room/garden 36 perches £15 £12 10d in the

6th December 1882

John Thomas Smith H.B. Mackenson house/new room/garden 36 perches £15 £12 10d in the £

6th June 1883

John Thomas Smith H.B. Mackenson house/new room/garden 36 perches £15 £12 10d in the £

5th December 1883

John Thomas Smith H.B. Mackenson house/new room/garden 36 perches £15 £12 10d in the £

4th June 1884

John Thomas Smith H.B. Mackenson house/new room/garden 36 perches £15 £12 10d in the £

3rd December 1884

John Thomas Smith H.B. Mackenson house/new room/garden 36 perches £15 £12 10d in the

7th December 1887

John Maylam H.B. Mackenson house/new room/garden 36 perches £15 £12 10d in the £

4th July 1888

John Maylam H.B. Mackenson house/new room/garden 36 perches £15 £12 10d in the £

5th December 1888

John Maylam H.B. Mackenson house/new room/garden 36 perches £15 £12 10d in the £

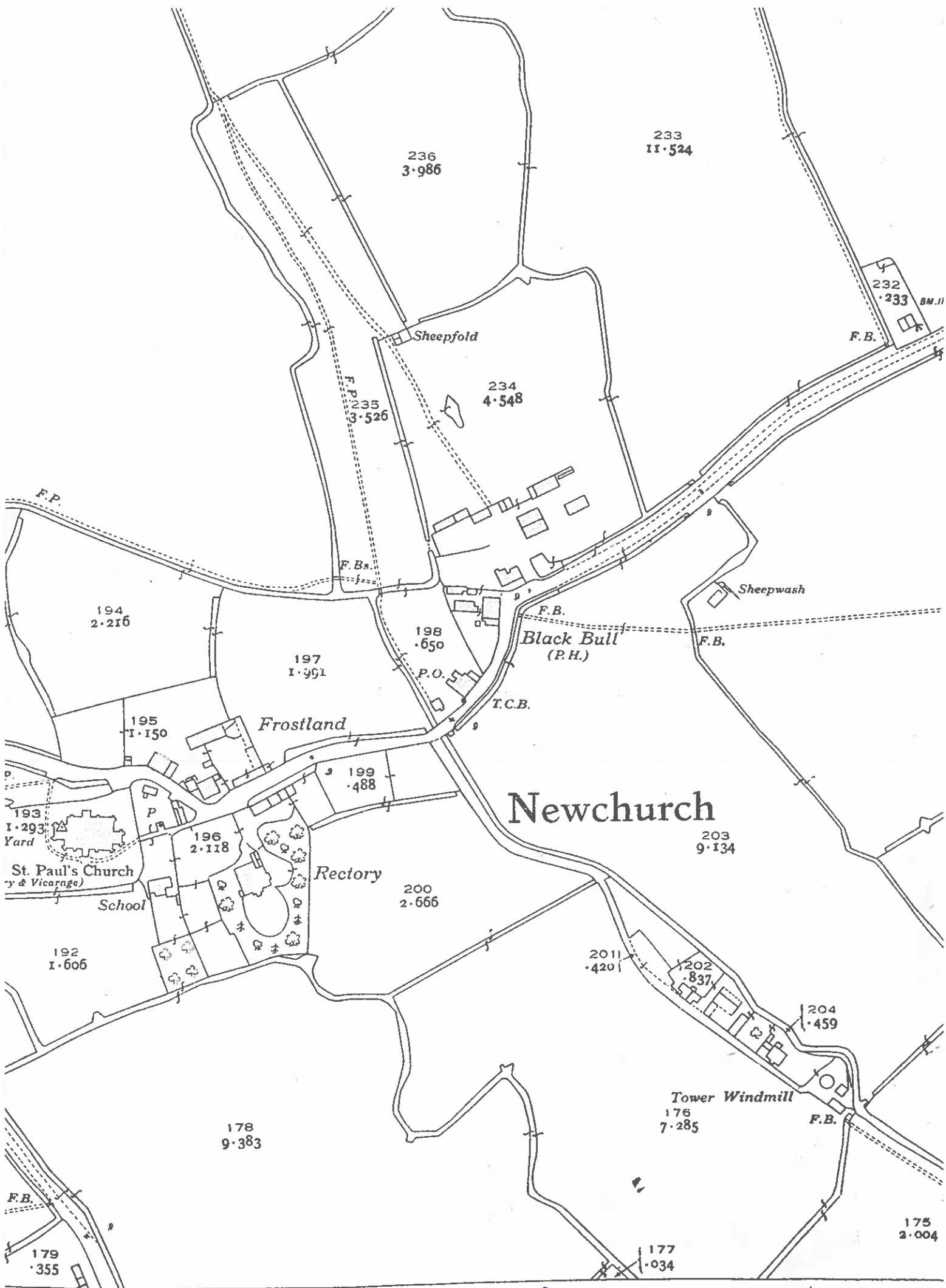
5th June 1889

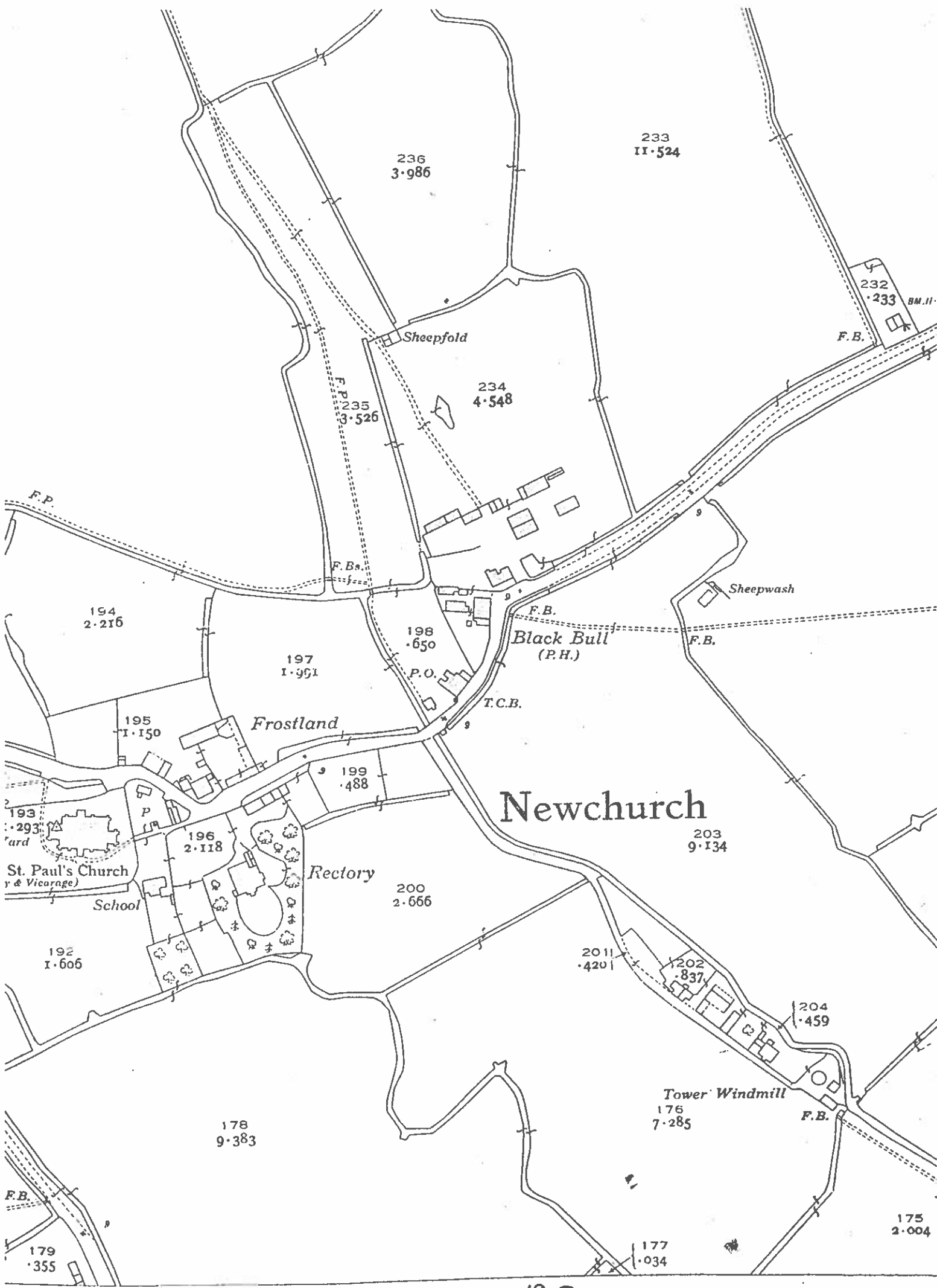
John Maylam H.B. Mackenson house/new room/garden 36 perches £15 £12 10d in the £

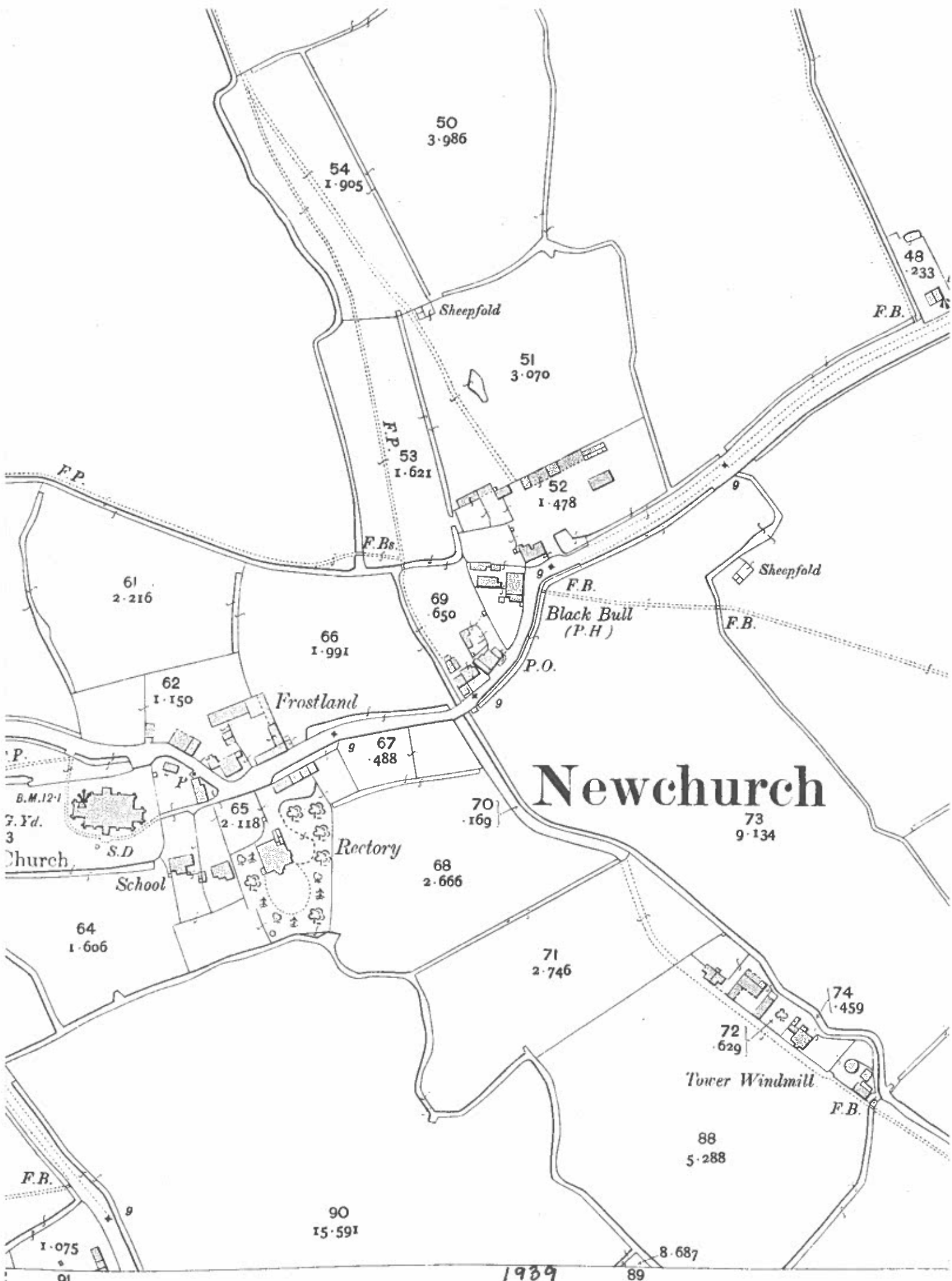
5th February 1890

John Maylam H.B. Mackenson house/new room/garden 36 perches £15 £12 10d in the £

From the 7th December 1887 until 5th February 1890 it appears that John Maylam was the tenant, but on the list of landlords it shows that John Thomas Smith held the licence.





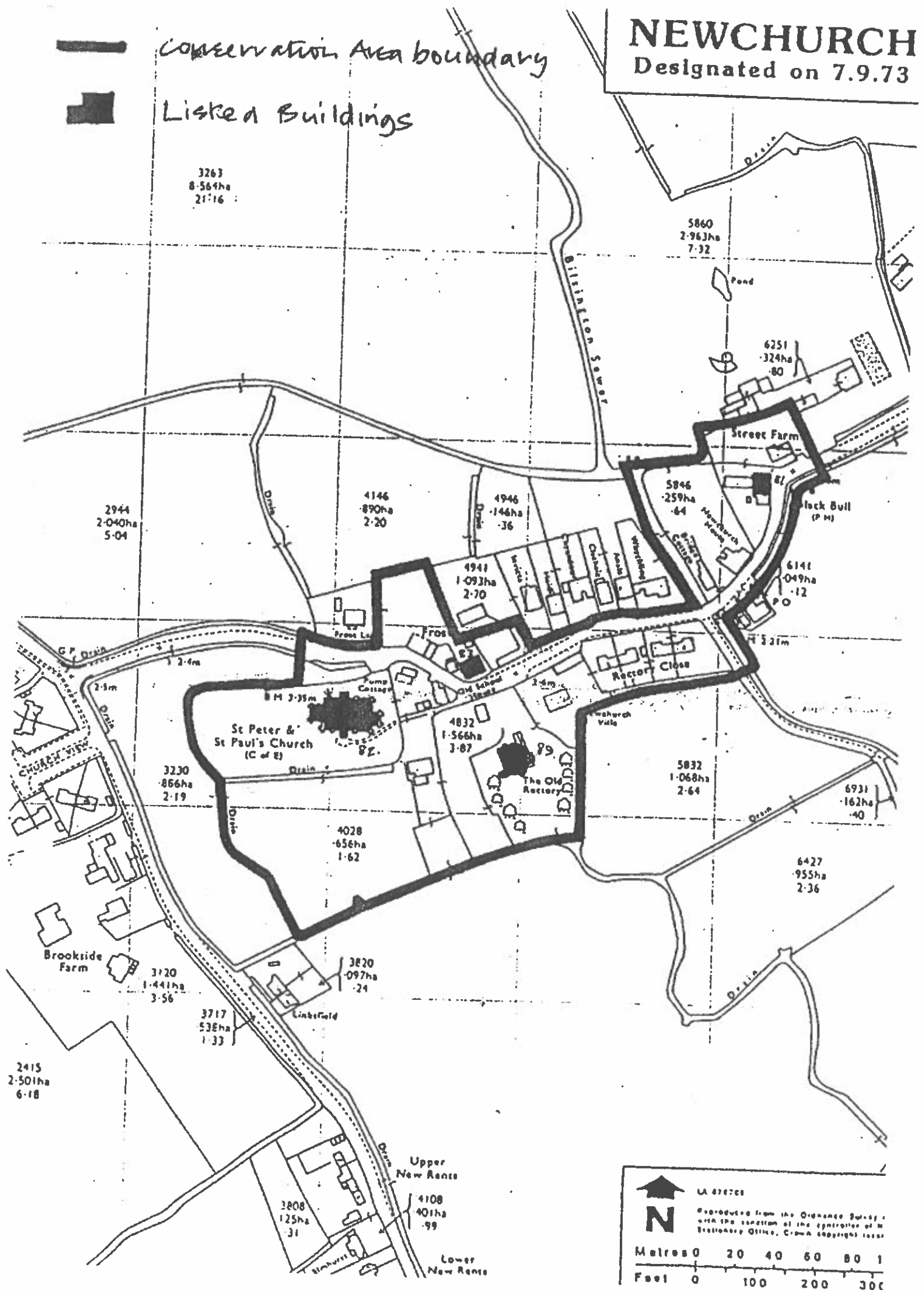


NEWCHURCH

Designated on 7.9.73

Conservation Area boundary

Listed Buildings

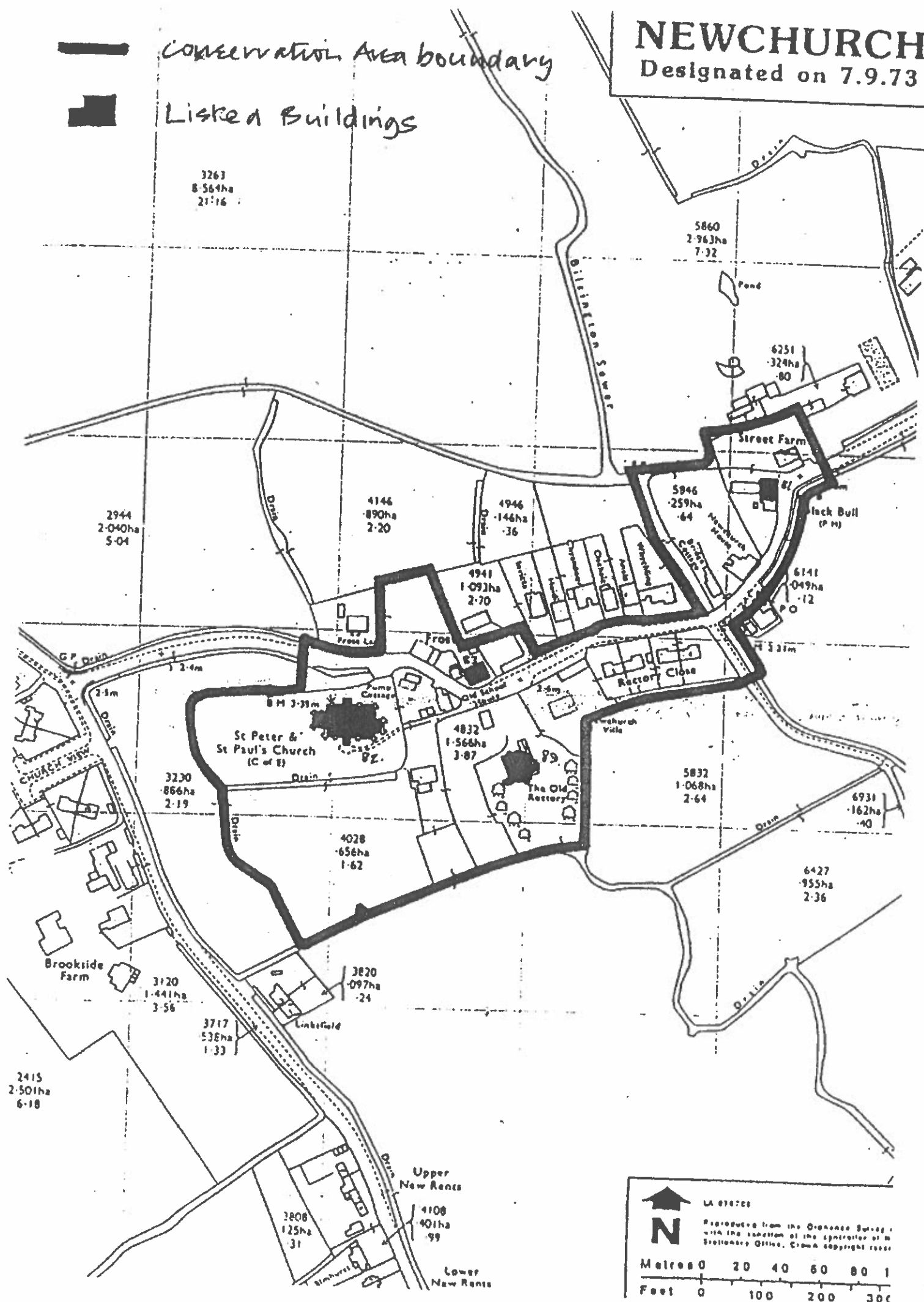


LA 878701

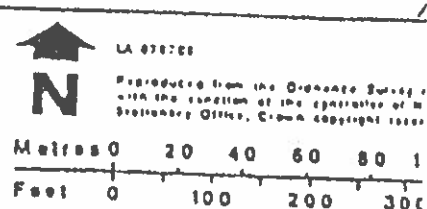
Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey with the sanction of the Controller of the Stationery Office, Crown copyright 1988

Metres 0 20 40 60 80 100
Feet 0 100 200 300

 Conservation Area boundary
 Listed Buildings



 Conservation Area boundary
 Listed Buildings

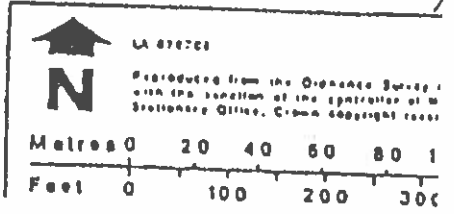
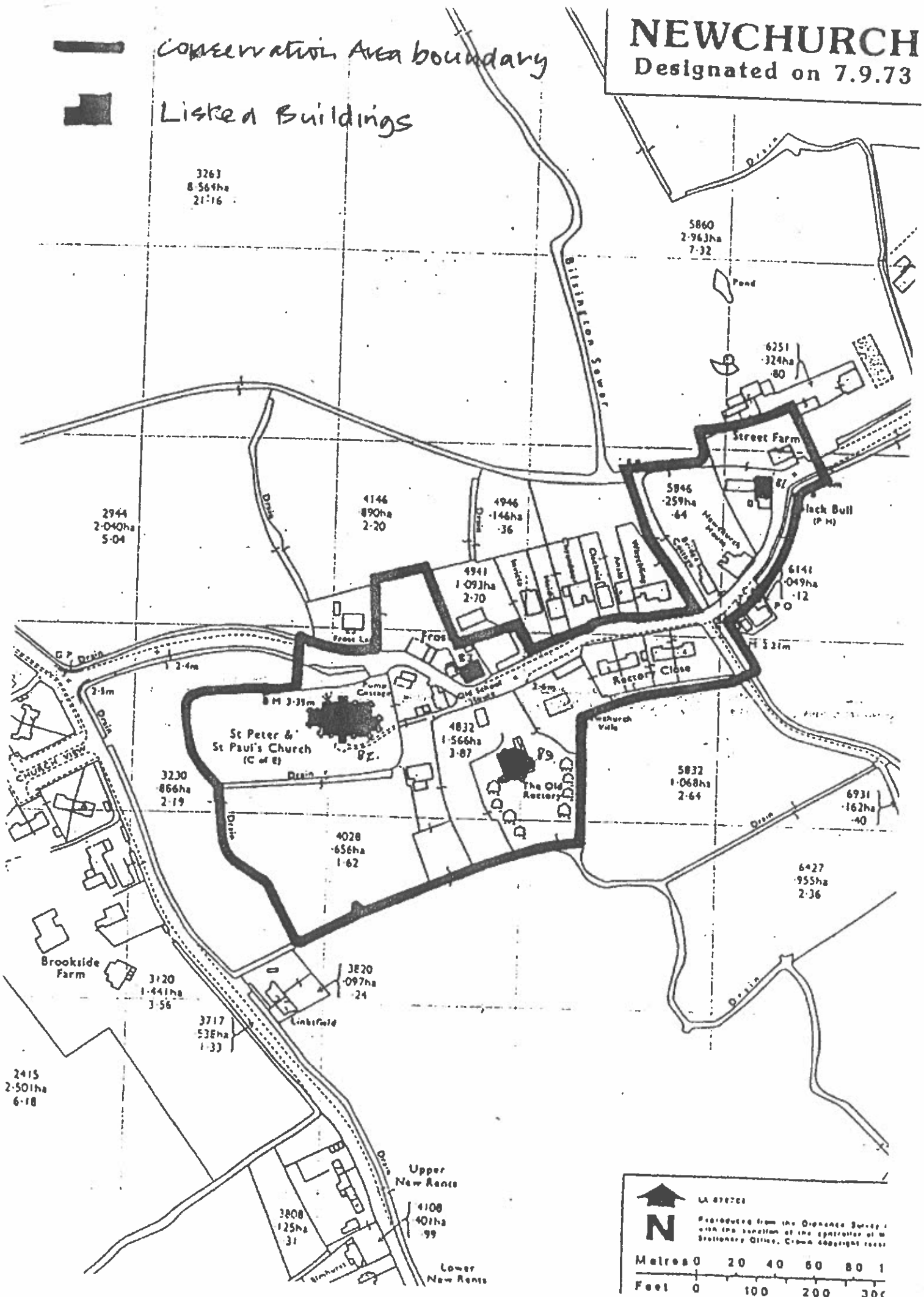


NEWCHURCH

Designated on 7.9.73

 Conservation Area boundary

 Listed Buildings



3263
8-564ha
21:16

5860
2-96Jha
7.32

NPond

6251
-324A8

Black Bull
(P M)

6141
-049h
-12

2944
2-040h
5-04

4146
-#90h
2-20

4946
-146ha
-16

4948
J 09Jha
2:20

1

100

20

5832
-068h
2-64

6931
-162ha
-40

6427
955h
2-36

St Peter &
St Paul's Church
(C of E)

3230
-866ha
2.19

4028
-656ha
1-62

3820
-097ha
-21

3717
535Hz
1.33

Brookside
Farm

3:20
1-441ha
3-56

2415
2-501ha
6-18

Upper
 1st floor

4100
401ha
99

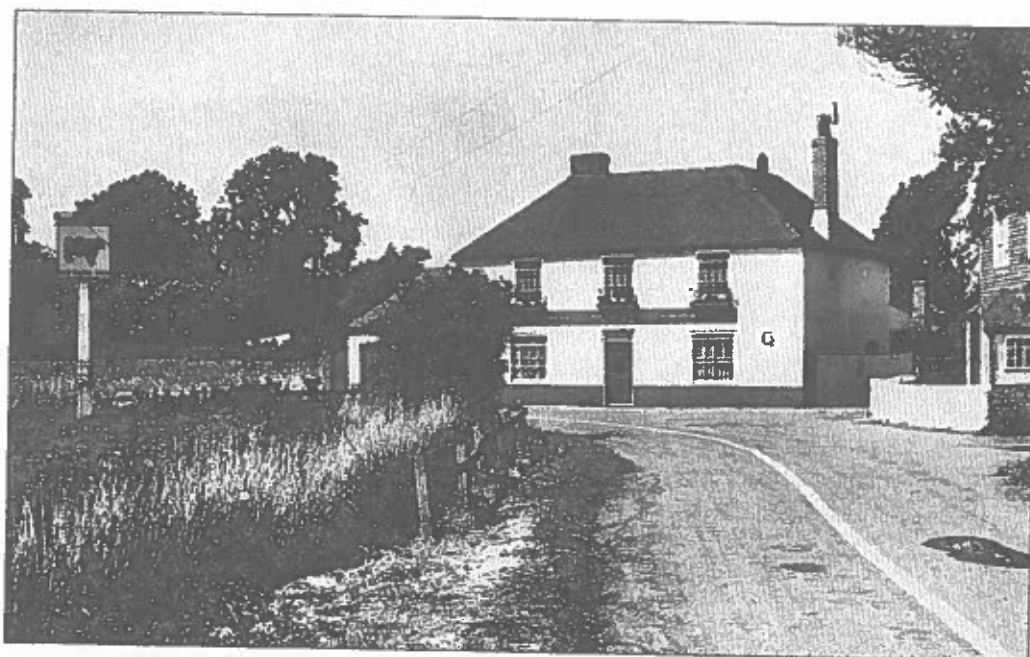
Lower
down Basin



LA 474228

Reproduced from the Congressional Record
with the permission of the Committee on
Printing and Graphics, U.S. Government Printing Office





When the River Rother flowed out to the sea near Hythe, and when it was known as the River Limen (more or less hence Port Lympne), Newchurch was an island in the middle of it. How it came to be called 'New' church is a bit of a mystery. Its present church dates, like most others on the marsh, from the thirteenth century, though it was restored in 1845. So neither the village nor the place is new by any definition. Neither is the Black Bull public house, for generations the secular heart of the village and a favourite with airmen from the nearby airfield during the Second World War.



Now it is a pub no more. As this photograph was taken, the noise and dust of renovation issued from the upper windows. Renewed, it will live on in the village, but the village will never again live in it.

Inns of Kent Published 1950.

The licence for the *Long Bow* was transferred from the *Greyhound* at Hadlow, which was demolished for road widening.

The *Greyhound* was connected with the coursing of hares, an old and popular sport enjoyed today especially in Romney Marsh where the John Jones Coursing Club hold regular meets. Every Monday through the winter months the enthusiastic members gather in turn at the *Bell Inn*, Ivychurch, an inn almost as old as the church which overshadows it, the *Star* at St. Mary in the Marsh, usually on Boxing Day, the *Royal Oak* at Bonnington and the *Black Bull* at Newchurch.

The *Black Bull* likes to consider itself the unofficial headquarters of the Club, in the entrance hangs an interesting picture of the original members with their greyhounds, and their famous founder, John Jones, Esq., J.P., to whom the picture was presented in 1893. Next to it is a photograph of the Club members taken sixty years later, in 1953. There are no bowler hats, no beards, no side-whiskers—but several women members!

Beneath the sign of the *Black Bull* is a striking quotation from the Song of Solomon: "I am black but comely . . . as the tents of Kedar, as the curtains of Jerusalem."

The four-ale bar is now a comfortable and cosy taproom, spotlessly clean and fresh, with a grandfather clock, an old black oak settle, and a copper warming pan giving it an air. The mantelshelf is adorned with four rundlets, Doulton earthenware spirit jars, two with the Royal Arms of Queen Anne and two of the Georgian period. In the small bar where blue and white quart jugs jostle with sporting guns, the dresser is fitted with spigots for opening the old "marble-in-the-neck" ginger beer bottles. Upstairs the former clubroom with its sliding partition has been converted into two bedrooms, looking out on to the cricket field and the vivid green goodness of Marsh pastures, dotted with sheep.

Outside the old coach house has been transformed into a refreshment room, simple and dignified in character. There is still stabling for seven horses if occasion arises.

This is a remote village inn that has been the focal point of social life in this parish for centuries. Little has changed—not even the topics of conversation which revolve round shepherding and sheep, farming, shooting and coursing. In Romney Marsh the shepherds are called "lookers", and their calling is "looking", and the sheep, the "Romneys", are famous the world over. The highest price paid for a "yearling ram" was a thousand guineas, and the same ram was sold in the Argentine for export to Uruguay for over £2,000.

Once, when the late Archbishop Lang was driving across Romney Marsh in spring-time, he stopped his car near a field of ewes and lambs. The weather-beaten old looker stood at the gate, watching

DOVER KENT ARCHIVES

Page Updated:- Saturday, 11 April, 2026.

PUB LIST		PUBLIC HOUSES		Paul Skelton
Earliest 1822-	Black Bull Inn			Closed 1995

Mill Lane
Newchurch



Above postcard, circa 1908, kindly sent by Rory Kehoe.



Above photo, circa 1920, kindly sent by Rory Kehoe.



Above photo, date unknown.



Above photo circa 1950s. Photo by Robin Boon.



Above photo, date unknown.



Above photo, 1953, kindly sent by Rory Kehoe.



Above photo, 1953, kindly sent by Rory Kehoe.



Above postcard, 1956 kindly sent by Peter Moynahan.



Above photo circa 1962, by Stephen Harris.



Above photo, date unknown.



Above photo 21 August 1983. Kindly sent by Chris Excell.



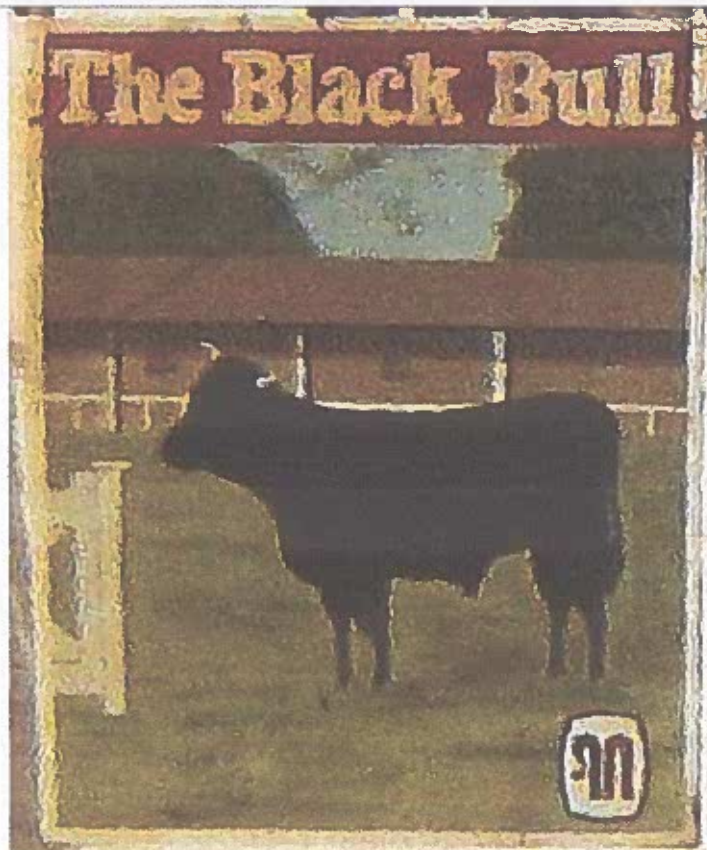
Above photo, 15 July 1985, by Jim Ashby.



Above photo, date unknown by David Anstiss.



Above photo, 2016.



Above sign, 1985.

The "Black Bull," was built in the reign of Charles II from, it is believed, old ships' timbers.

I am informed that the pub closed its doors around 1995 after being purchased by Shepherd Neame. Up to the time of closure, the pub had been run by two sisters.

David Birchall tells me that he can remember cricket being played on the field opposite the pub, around the 1950s.

Rory Kehoe says:- "In the 1970s/80s enjoying a pint this pub was like drinking in a time warp. It was run by two elderly sisters and visiting the pub was akin to stepping into their front room. All armchairs, chintz and friendly table service. I think the heavy lifting in the cellar was done for the ladies by some of the regulars."

Kent Herald, 18 December 1845.

On Saturday last, another inquest was held at the "Black Bull Inn," Newchurch, before the same Coroner, on the body of Ann Whitehead, a child also found dead in bed.

From the evidence of the surgeon, the child died a natural death. The widow, Sophia Whitehead, and mother of the child, stated that it was a month old, and appeared very well when put to bed; about half past seven one of the children called out and said the baby was very cold, on which she immediately went up and found her quite dead. This was corroborated by Mary Hills, a neighbour who was called in.

Verdict. Natural Death.

From the Kentish Gazette, 16 December 1845.

NEW ROMNEY. Coroner's Inquests.

On Tuesday last an inquest was held at Newchurch, before Archibald Stoakes, Esq., on the body of Martha Jane Collyer, who was found dead in her bed on Sunday evening. From the evidence of the surgeon, it appeared that the deceased had long suffered from scrofula, and that her death proceeded from natural causes. The deceased's father stated that he led the deceased to her bed on Sunday evening at a quarter past six, she was very weak and low; about a quarter before eight he was called up by Sarah Cole, and found her quite dead.

Verdict — Natural Death.

On Saturday last, another inquest was held at the "Black Bull Inn," Newchurch, before the same coroner, on the body of Ann Whitehead, a child, also found dead in bed. From the evidence of the surgeon, the child died a natural death. The widow, Sophia Whitehead, and mother of the child, stated that it was a month old, and appeared very well when put to bed; about half-past seven one of the other children called out and said the baby was very cold, on which she immediately went up and found her quite dead. This was corroborated by Mary Hills, a neighbour who was called in.

Verdict — Natural Death.

Canterbury Journal, Kentish Times and Farmers' Gazette 9 April 1887.

DEATH. SMITH.

On the 24th March, at the Beachlands, Hythe, Julia, the wife of J. T. Smith, late of the "Black Bull Inn," Newchurch, aged 30.

Folkestone, Hythe, Sandgate & Cheriton Herald 4 February 1899.

DYMCHURCH. MAGISTERIAL.

The licence of the "Black Bull Inn," Newchurch, was transferred from Mr. Frederick J Milton to Mr. Walter Broad.

From <http://baileysbeerblog.blogspot.co.uk> Tuesday, 4 December 2012 By Paul Bailey.

Newchurch is a typical Romney Marsh village; and its local hostelry, the Black Bull, was the pub of ones dreams. Sited on a bend on the edge of the village, the Black Bull was best visited on a cold winter's night. With a biting easterly wind blowing across the flat and bleak marshland, the pub offered warmth and shelter from the elements. It was also a smashing unspoilt country pub in its own right, dating back to the reign of Queen Anne.

I first became acquainted with the Black Bull in my late teens, when I visited it with a school friend. During the summers of 1972 and 1973, we had made a point of exploring the pubs of Romney Marsh on our motorbikes. During those care-free times we would call in at a pub to enjoy a game of darts together with a glass or two of bitter, and the Black Bull became one of our regular stops.

Back then the pub was owned by Whitbread, but during the 1970's it was sold to Shepherd Neame. By then I was in my mid twenties, and had returned to live in Kent after four years away at university in

Salford. Although it was a bit of a drive to the Black Bull, I would make a point of taking friends there to in order to introduce them to what I considered as one of the finest examples left of a traditional country inn.

The Black Bull had two rooms, leading off from a central corridor.



At the Black Bull, Newchurch, the old four-ale bar has Doulton spirit jars, bearing the Royal Arms, on the mantelpiece.



In the serving bar, a sporting gun jostles with an oil stove and the old blue and white quart measures. here all beer is drawn from the wood.

To the left, was a plainly decorated room with a bare stone floor and simple furnishings. Further down the corridor, and leading off to the right, was the larger of the two rooms. It was here that the bar was situated, and behind the counter, on a back shelf, were kept

several firkins of beer, each resplendent with its own brightly-coloured cask jacket. The room was carpeted, and furnished in the style of an old fashioned sitting room, with armchairs, settees and braided lamp shades. It was a wonderfully relaxed place in which to spend an evening, and reminded me of a similarly furnished pub (alas long since closed) called the "[George](#)," in the village of Wye, close to my childhood home.

Sometime in the late 1980's the Black Bull was "disposed of" by Shepherd Neame and I began to hear dark rumours that it had been knocked about. I never had the chance to discover this for myself, as my last visit there took place in 1985, when it was still owned by Sheps. I had just re-married, and my wife and I were spending our honeymoon in the picturesque town of Rye. During our stay we decided to call in at the Black Bull for lunch. Unfortunately, my new wife did not view the pub in its best light and was not impressed. It was evident during our visit that the saloon bar, in particular, was in need of a jolly good clean, and the pub in general certainly gave the impression of being very tired and run down.

I am not exactly certain when "last orders" were called at the Black Bull for the last time. The pub is listed in CAMRA's Real Ale Drinker's Guide to Kent Pubs, published in 1993, but by the time the 10th, and last countywide Kent guide was published in 1999, it had closed and become a private residence. A clue as to why it closed can be gleaned from the description in the 1993 guide: "Tucked away, this one-bar pub is pleasantly quiet". Too quiet in fact! Shep's were obviously unable to make a go of the pub. For a start there was no car park, with patrons having to leave their vehicles on the grass verge of a rather narrow and winding road. Newchurch itself is tiny with few chimney pots and almost certainly unable to provide sufficient trade to have kept the pub viable. The Black Bull therefore must remain as a pleasant memory of a simpler and bygone age. I feel privileged to have known it!

LICENSEE LIST

COLLYER Michael 1822+

OVENDEN Henry 1847-51+ (age 49 in 1851©)

OVENDEN George 1858+

FANCETT John H 1861-71+ (age 44 in 1871©)

SMITH John Thomas 1879-91+ (age 25 in 1881©)

MILTON Frederick J to Feb/1899

BROAD Walter Feb/1899-1903+ ▶ (age 28 in 1901©) 03

BROAD Edward 1913-34+

<https://pubwiki.co.uk/Bull.shtml>

<http://www.closedpubs.co.uk/blackbull.html>

03 From the Kelly's Directory 1903

©Census

If anyone should have any further information, or indeed any pictures or photographs of the above licensed premises, please email:-

Pub-info@Dover-Kent.Com

[TOP](#)

