Lost Pubs of Newchurch

1. Mill Stone Inn

This pub is mentioned in a periodical called 'Some facts about Newchurch Village in bygone days' which states: "Directly opposite the Mansion house was the hostilary (sic) known as the 'Duke of York', this was where local inquests were held. In 1854 a gent called Solomon Holt was the landlord. This part of Church Street was quite narrow and one could almost jump from one footpath to the other. At the back of these premises was the area known as Mill Fold which has its beer house known as 'Mill Stone Inn' a private house now to this date, a date here of 1725".

2. The Duke of York

Not much is known about the Duke of York pub, except Thomas Adlum was the last landlord when the pub closed on Tuesday 5th January 1909.

3. The Black Dog

The Black Dog public house was situated at no. 57a Church Street in 1767 and changed to a beerhouse in 1800. It was a stagecoach inn with a four stalled coaching house.

The pub sign was a black dog on a dark blue background and the pub had a carved '1767' datestone.

On 19th January 1922 a storm caused the building to collapse and it was demolished soon after. It was already in a poor state of repair and earmarked for demolition. The site was given to Rawtenstall Corporation by owner Mr H.H. Bolton JP and the small park was created in March 1927 (now known as Newchurch Community Garden).

Thanks to Wilf Day of Rossendale Family History Society for the background information and photographs.

For more information, please visit www.newchurch-village.co.uk

4. The White Lion

The location of The White Lion isn't quite certain but a white lion datestone was set into Church Street opposite The Boars Head when the village was redeveloped in 1964. This came from above the door of 58 Church Street with the date of 1781 and name of J. E. Lord and could possibly have been from the actual White Lion pub. In the 1860s and 1870s these premises were the home and shop of John Schofield a hat manufacturer followed by William Barrow a draper.

5. The Boars Head

The Boars Head is a three storey building with a datestone from 1674 L.-I. E. This dates from an earlier building and was rebuilt into a new frontage; the oldest part of the building is at the rear.

In the 1800s the Free Masons used the pub as their headquarters.

It was formerly a John Kenyon house and believed to be the last public house in Rawtenstall to brew its own ale. The pub had its own bowling green from 1898 which was turned into a tennis court around 1920. The land then had various uses before being turned into a bowling green again in 1988 until it was closed by the owner in 2011.

In the cellar is a blocked up entrance which is said to be a secret passage leading to St Nicholas' Church. On 16th September 1978 just after 10am the roof collapsed entirely whilst the landlord was luckily in the cellar. The pub had to close for a month whilst a new roof was created.

6. The Blue Bell

Not much information is known about The Blue Bell pub except from information which appeared in the local newspapers. One of the earliest reports dates from 12th August 1865 when John Slater of the Blue Bell was fined for selling whiskey at a time when it was illegal.

Fourteen days later he was fined again for opening the pub during prohibited hours.

In March 1891 the pub was nearly destroyed by fire and the publicans had to flee.

The pub closed in 2013 and is now a private home.

7. Sawyers Arms

This was situated at the top of Turnpike (on the corner of Turnpike and Naze Road where the current bus shelter stands) and it had a datestone of 1740. It was known to be in business on 1836 when the landlord was 'Dick 'o Jimmies' and a large number of pigs were sold at the front of the pub at the Kirk Fair.

The licence was not renewed in 1886 so it is presumed the pub closed then.

8. Cloggers Arms

The Cloggers Arms was on Old Street in Newchurch and had a datestone of 1724 L.T.M. It consisted of a taproom, bar parlour, kitchen, clubroom, beer store and three cellars.

The domestic accommodation included a kitchen, back kitchen, five bedrooms and an attic.

It was in a poor state of repair when it closed, particularly the rear of the building. It was demolished in the slum clearance of the 1930s and the site redeveloped in the 1960s with council flats and bungalows.

9. The Volunteers

This was situated on Turnpike, opposite Kirk Gate (now named Old Street). It is thought the pub got its name from the 3rd Lancashire Rifle Volunteers, 1 Company which had its headquarters in the area between 1862 and 1865.

The pub changed its name to Subiancos Music Bar in 1987 and closed in 1989 and was converted into four flats in 1993. It is now known as 'The Quarters'.

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